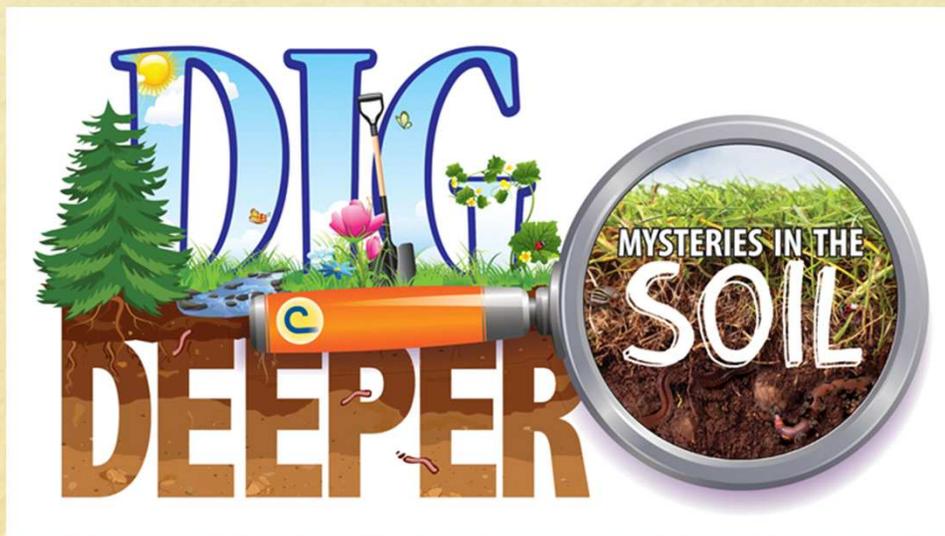


Poster Contest

DIG DEEPER – Mysteries in the soil

NACD/Auxiliary
2014 Poster Contest
Ideas, Rules, Poster Ideas and Tips





NACD Stewardship and Education Committee is partnering with the Soil Science Society of America's K-12 education committee in the development of the education materials.

In addition Conservation District Staff have assisted in the review of the text from across the country



DIG DEEPER: Mysteries in the Soil

Is soil important to your daily life?



Oxygen

Name some of the ways



SOIL in your community



Look Around

Do these things come from soil?



**What about chocolate?
Does it come from soil?**



Places Cacao Trees grow

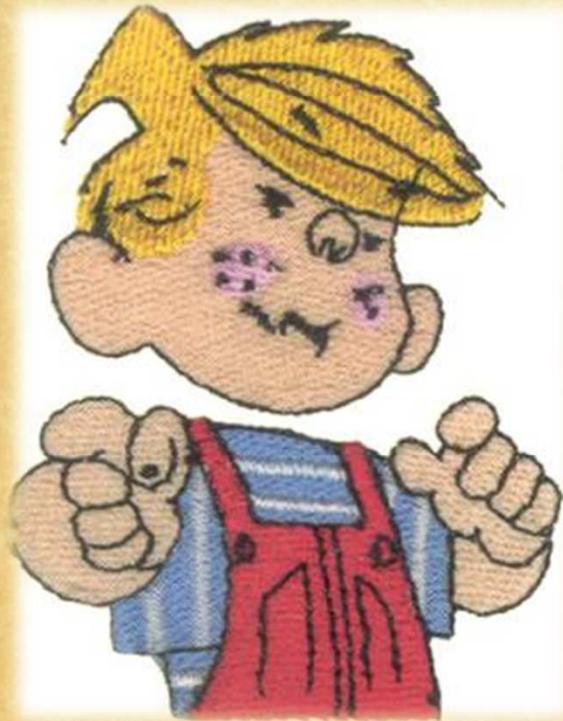


**Dirt's a lot
more fun
when you add water!**

Hank Ketcham

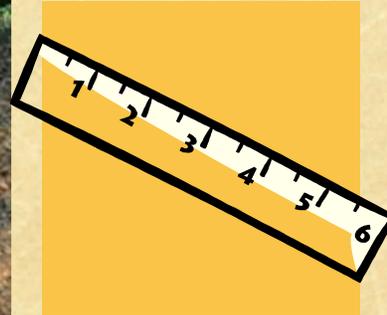
(creator of

Dennis the Menace)



How long does it take to make soil?

- ◆ It can take 500 to 1,000 years to form one-inch of soil. If people grew that slowly it would take 80,000 years to grow a basketball player.



What is soil made up of?

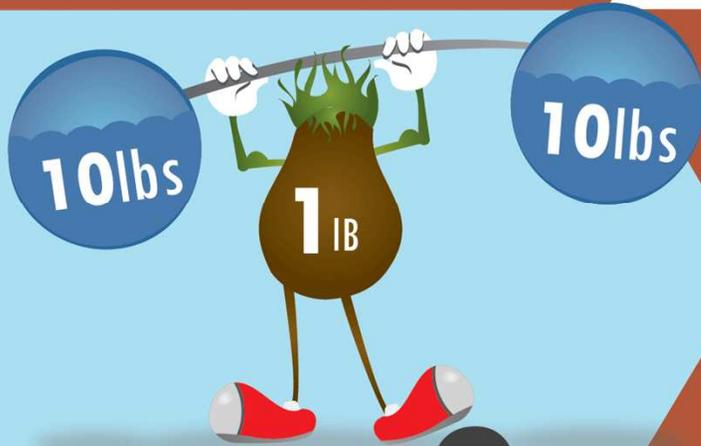
- ◆ Soil comes from broken up pieces of rock and dead leaves, tree limbs, and dead bugs
And other things that decompose.





USDA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

Healthy SOIL SECRETS



HEALTHY SOIL IS A **HEAVYWEIGHT.**

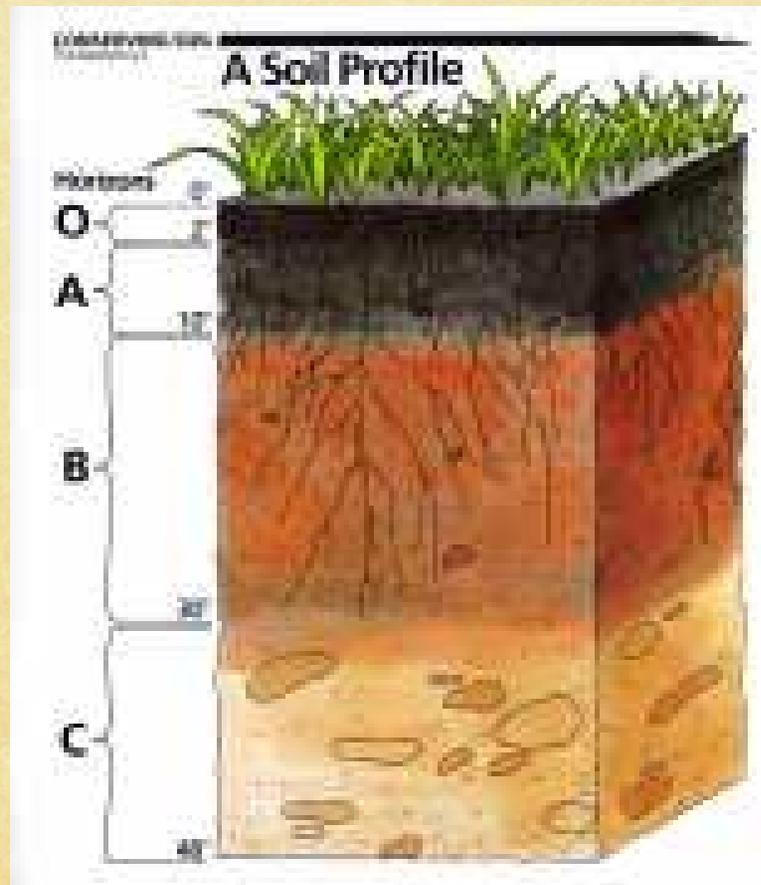
EACH POUND OF SOIL ORGANIC MATTER CAN HOLD **18-20**
POUNDS OF WATER. **1%** ORGANIC MATTER CAN HOLD 1 INCH OF
WATER IN THE SOIL PROFILE.

**WANT MORE?
SOIL SECRETS ?**

CHECK OUT
WWW.NRCS.USDA.GOV



Soil Profile





USDA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

Healthy SOIL SECRETS



HALF OF A HEALTHY SOIL'S COMPOSITION SHOULD BE PORE SPACE THAT
CONTAINS **AIR AND WATER.**

AN IDEAL SOIL COMPOSITION BY VOLUME SHOULD BE APPROXIMATELY
25 PERCENT WATER, **25** PERCENT AIR, **45** PERCENT MINERAL
AND **5** PERCENT ORGANIC MATTER.

**WANT MORE?
SOIL SECRETS**

CHECK OUT
WWW.NRCS.USDA.GOV



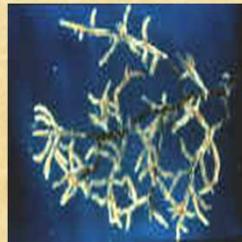
There's Something Living Under My Feet!

When you walk to the school bus or to the garage to get your bicycle or through the yard to get to the mailbox you are walking on living organisms. Just **ONE TEASPOON** of soil can hold between 100 million and 1 billion bacteria and other organisms. A few of the organisms you might find

Bacteria



Fungi



Nematodes



Earthworms





USDA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

Healthy SOIL SECRETS



**THERE ARE MORE SOIL MICROORGANISMS IN A TEASPOON OF HEALTHY SOIL THAN THERE ARE
PEOPLE ON THE EARTH!**



MILLIONS OF SPECIES AND BILLIONS OF ORGANISMS — BACTERIA, ALGAE, MICROSCOPIC INSECTS, EARTHWORMS, BEETLES, ANTS, MITES, FUNGI AND MORE — REPRESENT THE GREATEST CONCENTRATION OF BIOMASS ANYWHERE ON THE PLANET! MICROBES, WHICH MAKE UP ONLY ONE HALF OF ONE PERCENT OF THE TOTAL SOIL MASS, ARE THE YEASTS, ALGAE, PROTOZOA, BACTERIA, NEMATODES, AND FUNGI THAT PROCESS ORGANIC MATTER INTO RICH, DARK, STABLE HUMUS IN THE SOIL.

**WANT MORE
SOIL SECRETS?**

CHECK OUT
WWW.NRCS.USDA.GOV



DID YOU KNOW?

- ◆ Soils support some charismatic ecosystem such as a forest, wetland or grassland, and the wildlife within it.



SOIL

- ◆ Soil is an amazing substance. A complex mix of minerals, air, and water, soil also teems with countless micro-organisms, and the decaying remains of once-living things. Soil is made of life and soil makes life.
- ◆ To the farmer, soil is where crops grow.
- ◆ To the engineer, soil is a foundation upon which to build.
- ◆ To the ecologist, soil supports communities of living things.
- ◆ To the archaeologist, soil holds clues to past cultures.
- ◆ To the city dweller, soil nurtures grass and gardens. *To the soil scientist, soil is all of these things.* Soil has been called "the skin of the earth" because it is the thin outermost layer of the Earth's crust.
- ◆ **Like our own skin, we can't live without soil.**



Design your posters using some of these ideas:

- * What am I walking on? (type of soil and its uses)
- * Why do people treat soil like dirt? (soil is the foundation of things we use each day)
 - Why is healthy soil important?
 - Look around your community for ideas.

Discuss and share your information with others!



2014 Categories

- ◆ Grades K-1
- ◆ Grades 2-3
- ◆ Grades 4-6
- ◆ Grades 7-9
- ◆ Grades 10-12

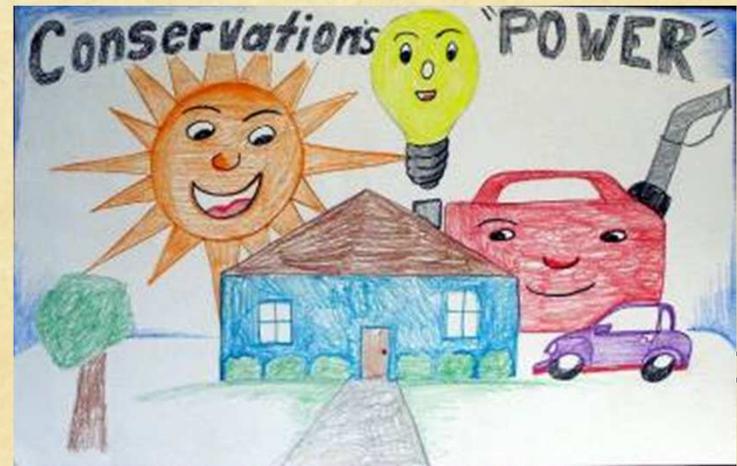


Poster Ideas



What makes a good Poster?

- ◆ Attracts attention
- ◆ Is simple and clear
- ◆ Uses colors and white hold attention
- ◆ Letters are large enough to be easily read



When forming ideas for your poster

- ◆ Research the topic of the theme
- ◆ Brainstorm ideas and make a list
- ◆ Use the theme as your title

DIG DEEPER: Mysteries in the soil

Or DIG DEEPER



Tips to remember

- ◆ Don't use too many words
- ◆ Use a combination of illustrations and words
- ◆ Be as neat as you can
- ◆ Blend colors when using crayons or colored pencils
- ◆ Depending on design leave white space on the poster
- ◆ Make sure the poster is balanced



Tips to remember

Choose colors carefully. Note the following general guidelines:

- ◆ - Black tends to be more formal, neat, rich, strong
- ◆ - Blue is cool, melancholy
- ◆ - Purple is considered royal, rich
- ◆ - Yellow tends to be warm, light, or ripe
- ◆ - Green is fresh, young, or growing
- ◆ - White means clean, and neat
- ◆ - Red attracts the eye, is high energy
- ◆ - Orange attracts the eye



Tips to remember

- ◆ Don't try to include too many ideas or activities on your poster.
- ◆ A single message, clearly illustrated, is more effective





Things you should not do

- ◆ Cover poster with lamination or other clear covering

(Clear covering is OK if chalk type materials)

- ◆ Use staples, tacks, or tape
- ◆ Use fluorescent posters
- ◆ Create a poster that is all words or a poster that is all pictures



Steps to follow when making a poster

- ◆ Decide on information to include on the poster
- ◆ Research the theme topic
- ◆ Sketch out your idea
- ◆ Mark guidelines for lettering (lightly)
- ◆ Clean up the poster so it is neat. Erase any guidelines that are showing.



Steps to follow when making a poster

- ◆ Turn poster in on time for judging.
 - ◆ **DEADLINE IS THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 2014**
- ◆ Attach poster entry form on the back and be sure it is signed by a parent or guardian.
- ◆ Entry must be contestant's original, hand done creation and may not be traced from photographs or other artists' published works.



Steps to follow when making a poster

- ◆ Any media may be used to create a flat or two-dimensional effect (paint, crayon, colored pencil, charcoal, paper or other materials).
- ◆ Poster size must be between 8.5" x 11" and 22" x 28". Or the size required by your local or state contest.



What your poster will be judged on

- ◆ Conservation message—50 percent
- ◆ Visual effectiveness—30 percent
- ◆ Originality—10 percent and
- ◆ Universal appeal—10 percent.



"We abuse land because we regard it as a commodity belonging to us. When we see land as a community to which we belong, we may begin to use it with love and respect." ---

Aldo Leopold, A Sand County Almanac, 1949



- ♦ Visit

<http://www.nacdnet.org/education/resources>

For additional information on

2014 NACD Stewardship

Teachers guide

Student booklets

In early fall 2013

and more.....



GRUNDY COUNTY SWCD WEBSITE
WWW.SWCD.MO.GOV/GRUNDY

