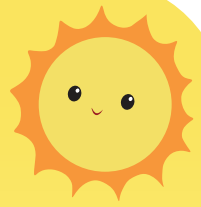




Curriculum Bytes



Soil

Arf, Arf, Arf! (Hello Bloomers),

I'm Dog Wood, Professor Sage's puppy, and I'm going to talk to you about soil because no one likes to dig in the soil more than I do!

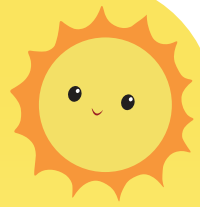
DID YOU KNOW that soil is made up of old leaves and twigs, broken rocks, clay and **MINERALS**? Many healthy **ORGANISMS** and bugs live in the soil. Plants grow in soil too.

Hold some soil in your hands. How does it feel? How does it smell? Look at it under a **MAGNIFYING GLASS**. Draw what you see below.





Curriculum Bytes



Soil

Arf, Arf, Arf!

Dog Wood here again.

I have an idea. Let's do an experiment.

We know that plants mostly grow in soil, but do you think seeds can **SPROUT** without soil? How do you think we can perform this experiment?

You can start with a few seeds. What do they feel like? Are they hard, soft? Do they smell? What shape and color are they?

Put your seeds in a plastic bag with a moist paper towel and tape it to the window. Wait a week or so and then check on them. Did any of the seeds sprout? Did you guess correctly?





Curriculum Bytes



Soil

Arf, Arf, Arf!

What do you think will happen if you add water to soil? What do you think it will turn into?

If you said “mud” you were **CORRECT**! Have you ever made a mud pie?

If you use a foil pie pan, you can mix your soil and water until it becomes mud. You can decorate the top of it with leaves and flowers and seeds. Then put it outside in the sun until the mud dries. Your pie is done!

My pie sure looks pretty, but how do you think it will taste? Would you like a piece?

