OUR SOIL QUEST

The Significant Figures
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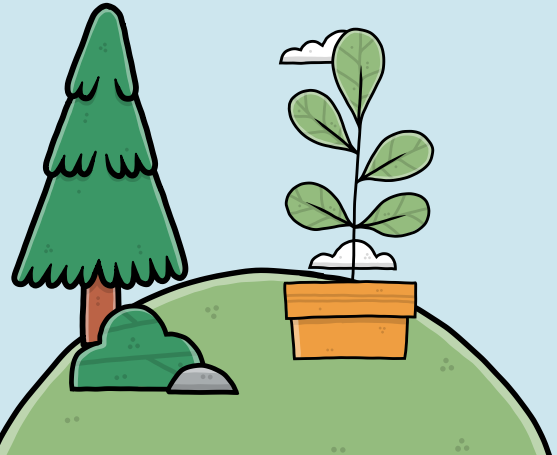
Recording Our Observations

I NOTICE...	I WONDER...	THIS REMINDS ME OF...
- The soil at my school could be more saturated because, at the moment, it seems quite dry.	- How come there is a patch of soil that seems too wet, in one spot, and a patch of soil directly next to the first one that seems too dry?	- Oddly enough, a towel. A towel can be fully saturated, in one spot, and almost completely dry, in an adjacent spot.



1.

2.

Know, Need, Do

1. What do we KNOW about the soil around us and its relationship with living things, nonliving parts, the atmosphere, and our changing climate?

Soil is what holds our society together. Without it, there would be no increase in population because no one would be able to eat.

2. What do we NEED to know to restore the health of the soil around us, and to understand its relationship with living things, nonliving parts, the atmosphere, and our changing climate?

We need to know and understand what types of climates soil responds well to, as well as what factors cause soil to become infertile.

3. What might we DO to restore the health of our local soil so it can help slow climate change?

We must continue to plant, begin composting, diversifying crop rotations, and learn about soil's prime season.

Post-Quest Reflection

In our community, we plan on starting a composting club. We'll begin by teaching about the importance of healthy vs. unhealthy soil, then, we'll move onto talking about CO2 and its impact on the environment. People will bring their compostable materials, and we will use eclectic composters to begin making the soil!

3.

What we found...

1. Soil can be both healthy and unhealthy. They are both carbon-based, but unhealthy soil has trouble absorbing water. That's why is tends to appear chalk-like and hard.
2. The less healthy soil we have, the less photosynthesis occurs, and that leads to the carbon-cycle not being fulfilled.
3. When the carbon cycle is neglected, a large amount of carbon emissions are produced because the unhealthy soil is releasing sequestered carbon.

Credits

Appendix 1: WikiHow
Appendix 2: Groundwater Governance
Appendix 3: Healthline
Social Media Post: NRDC

Social Media Post