

Soil Chefs 1. Soil Scavenger Hunt: Observe and Research



For the Classroom:

- Group structure - whole group or small groups
- Location - throughout schoolyard
- Approximate time - 25 minutes

Common Core and Georgia Standards of Excellence:

- S3E1c. Students will use observation to compare similarities and differences of texture, particle size, and color in top soils (such as clay, compost, and sand).
- S3L1. Students will investigate the habitats of different organisms and the dependence of organisms on their habitat.
- S3CS8/S4CS8/S5CS8. Students will understand important features of the process of scientific inquiry.
- S3CS3/S4CS3/S5CS3. Students will use tools and instruments for observing, measuring, and manipulating objects in scientific activities.

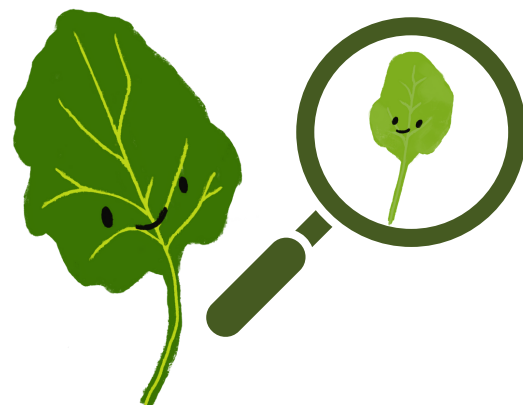
Materials:

- Trowels (1 per small group)
- Magnifying Glasses (1 per small group)
- Clipboards (1 per child)
- Pencils (1 per child)

Reproducibles:

- [Soil Scavenger Hunt](#) (1 per child)

Directions:



1. Observe plants growing in the garden and various outdoor spaces around the school noting the dependence of those plants on their unique habitat.
2. Small groups can use a trowel to pull up some of the soil in each location. Students touch and look closely with a magnifying glass before articulating what they observe about the soil using the words that describe:
 - a. Smell
 - b. Texture (smooth, rough)
 - c. Color (dark, light) - can rub soil on paper to capture color!
 - d. Particle Size (small, large)
 - e. Weight (light, heavy)

Lesson written by Jenna Mobley for Georgia Organics