



Educators Guide

Exploring Soil

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Using *Wild Times* as a Reading in the Content Area

Wild Times presents an opportunity for your students to be introduced to ecological concepts and to read scientific information. This issue focuses on soil, one of our greatest natural resources, which is composed of an amazing array of both abiotic materials and living organisms. Begin your exploration of this issue by working with the vocabulary that is presented. Students can define the words by reading the text of this issue. In addition, *Wild Times* allows students to look for key words that are used in many science textbooks. One way to increase your students' ability to read science is to have them make an outline of the issue, or to write a summary paragraph after reading.

Vocabulary:

Soil
Bedrock
Humus
Topsoil
Fossorial
Sand
Silt
Clay

Objectives:

1. Students will be able to describe what soils are made of.
2. Students will be able to identify four insects or other animals that are found in soil.
3. Students will be able to describe three types of soil.

Project WILD Activities
Eco-Enrichers Grades 5-8

We suggest you visit: <http://www.globe.gov/web/soil/overview>