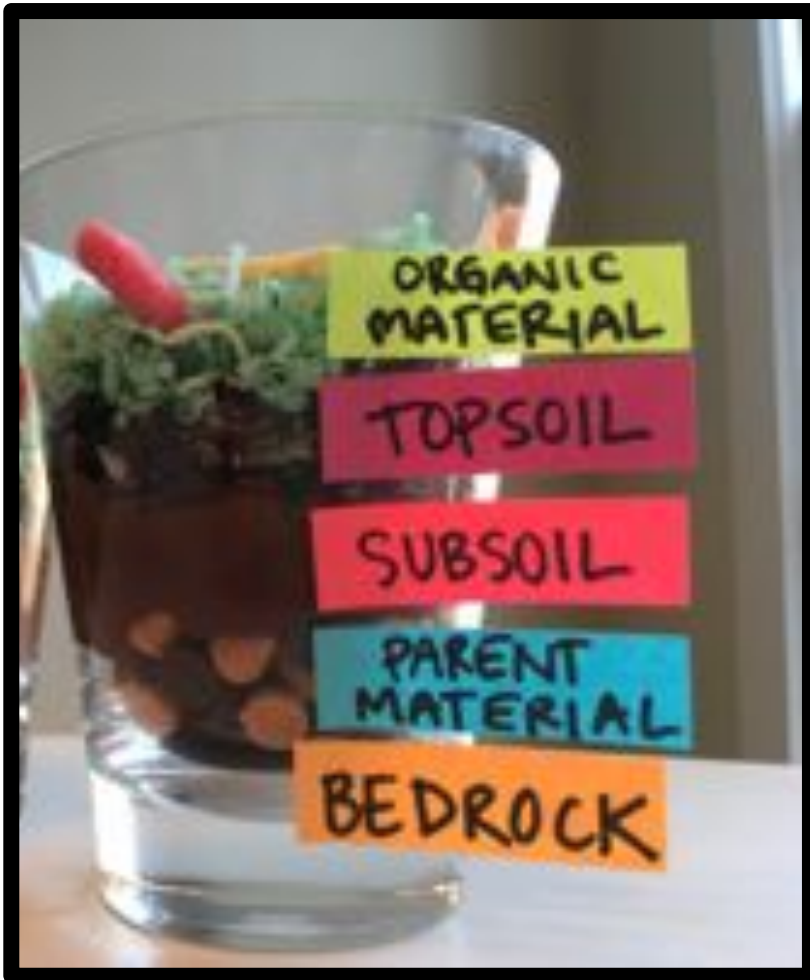


LAYERS OF SOIL ACTIVITY

LAYERS OF SOIL ACTIVITY EXAMPLE



MATERIALS FOR LAYERS OF SOIL ACTIVITY

Organic Material:
green food coloring,
coconut, twizzlers
and/or sour straws

Topsoil: Crushed and
crumbled Oreos

Subsoil: chocolate
pudding

Parent Material:
chocolate chips and
butterscotch chips

Bedrock: crushed up
oreo cookie

Instructions

Step 1: Each student should have an empty plastic cup. Ask students to pick up their Oreo cookie and place in the bottom of their cup – this represents **bedrock**. Bedrock is a solid rock that lies under loose or soft material. It is the outermost layer of the Earth's crust.

Step 2: Instruct students to dump their chocolate and butterscotch morsels on top of their Oreo cookie – this represents the **parent material**. Parent material is formed from bedrock after a long weathering process; above this layer is where soil layers will be formed.

Step 3: Add chocolate pudding (1/2 cup per student) – this represents the **Subsoil**. Subsoil offers rich minerals for plants and trees searching for root systems, and water movement directly affects this layer.

Step 4: Now students will add the crushed & crumbled Oreos – this represents the **topsoil**. Topsoil is the top layer of soil. Topsoil provides the rich material and nutrients needed for seed germination.

Step 5: Students will place a small amount of green colored shredded coconut.

Step 6: Choose a type of candy such as a green sour straw or Twizzler, explain to students that this will act as the root system as it pushes through the layers of soil.

Step 7: Allow students to admire their work. Provide each student with a spoon and “enjoy” his or her learning of the layers of soil.