



# Building delicious soil pudding models

Volume 27 | Gr. 3-5

Time: 90 mins.



## Materials list

- Clear plastic cups
- OREO® cookies (3 per student)
- Zip-close plastic bags (2 per student)
- Sharpie®
- Plastic spoons
- Pudding (3 flavors)
  - Vanilla
  - Chocolate
  - Butterscotch

### Optional:

Soil Horizons (C34457)  
Gummy Worms

## Objectives

Students will...

- Be able to identify each of the 5 layers of soil
- Explore the creation of each layer

## Overview

Many students know of dirt cake, but there is a difference between dirt and soil. Use this favorite treat to explore the layers of soil. Whether an at home assignment or in the classroom, students will be able to make a model of the different soil levels using OREOS® and pudding and then label each of the layers of soil.

### 5-LS2-1:

Develop a model to describe the movement of matter among plants, animals, decomposers, and the environment.

### LS2.A:

Interdependent Relationships in Ecosystems.

## Discuss:

What is the difference between soil and dirt?

- A. Soil is living and promotes life like worms living in it. Dirt is dead and doesn't have the nutrients to support life.

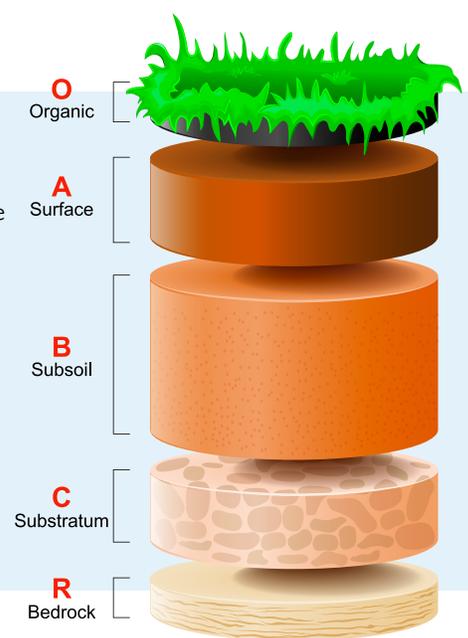
Why is soil important?

- A. Soil has a lot of the important stuff that plants need to grow. Many of our favorite foods would not be possible without soil.

What are the different layers of soil?

- A. See diagram at right.

**Watch:** *Layers of Soil - The Dr. Binocs Show* (<https://youtu.be/bgqea0E2eAY>)



## Activity

1. Each student needs a plastic cup, two OREOS® and a zip-close plastic bag.
2. Take the two OREOS® and put them in the zip-close plastic bag and seal the bag.
3. Crush the OREOS® until they are in small pieces.
4. Take the crushed OREOS® and place them in the bottom of the plastic cup.
5. Pack OREOS® down with a spoon.
6. The OREOS® signify the bedrock or the R Horizon.
7. Add two scoops of vanilla pudding and place it in the cup. The vanilla pudding signifies the C Horizon.
8. Students add two scoops of chocolate pudding. This signifies the subsoil or B Horizon.
9. Add 2 scoops of butterscotch pudding to the top of the chocolate pudding. This signifies the topsoil layer or A Horizon.
10. Take the middle (white part) out the last OREO®, leaving only the chocolate cookies pieces.
11. Put the two chocolate cookies pieces into another zip-close plastic bag. Crush the cookies until they are finely ground.
12. Sprinkle the finely ground cookies on top of the A Horizon. This signifies the O Horizon or organic material layer.
13. Have each student write the names of the layers on their cup (Bedrock, C Horizon, B Horizon, A Horizon and O Horizon)



## SEL Power-up Reflection

After completion of making the model, write your answers or discuss in class.

### GROUP REFLECTION

1. What was the hardest part about making your soil layer model?
2. Why is each layer of soil important?
3. How is soil a part of our daily lives?
4. How can we protect top soil from eroding?

### SELF-REFLECTION

1. Did I try my best on this project? If you had to give yourself a score from 1-10, 10 being "I did my best work" and 1 being "I didn't put any effort in my work," what score would you give yourself?
2. How did I feel as I worked on this project?
3. What role does science play in my life?