

Soil Your Undies Lesson Plan

Topic Soil Science

Standards

3.ESS.1	3.ESS.3	5.LS.1
3.LS.2	4.LS.1	6.ESS.4

Materials Needed

- 100% Cotton Underwear
- Shovel
- Flag
- Gloves (optional)

Lesson Plan

Introduction of soil and soil science

Possible Learning Objectives

- Observe, discuss, and understand what happens to organic materials when buried in soil
- Understand the properties of healthy vs unhealthy soil
- Understand the actions you can take to amend (or fix) unhealthy soil to make it better
- Learn why improving soil fertility is important

About the Challenge

- Because cotton underwear is made from plants/organic material, it should, if the soil is healthy, be broken down by microbes, bacteria, and worms and turned into soil.
- We will bury a pair of 100% cotton underwear and leave it for a month or two. When we dig them up, we will see how degraded the undies are and decide what that says about our soil.

Take the challenge by having your students plant the underwear as instructed.

Assessment

Use our accompanying worksheet or have the students discuss their observations.

Bonus: If the soil is poor, discuss the strategies you can take to improve it. Then try those ideas if you are able.

After you've completed the challenge, log it on our website and reach out to us to receive "I Soiled My Undies" stickers for your students.

