

Why is soil important to us?

Let's read

People need soil to live. The land we live on is made of soil. We build our houses on soil, and we grow plants we can eat in the soil. Animals also need soil. Goats and cows eat grass and other plants that grow in the soil. Some small animals, like rabbits and mice, insects like ants as well as worms, live in the ground. And most plants need soil to grow in.

There are three different types of soil.

Sandy soil

If you rub some of this soil with your fingers you will feel it is hard, dry and sandy. It is easy for the wind to blow sandy soil away. If you pour water over sandy soil, the water runs through it quickly, and carries away some of the sand. Plants don't grow well in this light-coloured soil.



Sandy soil

Clay

Some soil feels like clay. When you wet this kind of yellowish soil it sticks together. You can form all sorts of clay, like cups and bowls and clay animals, but it is difficult to grow plants in clay soil. When it rains, clay holds the water for a long time and the plants, that are growing in it, get too wet.



Clay soil

Date:

Loam

Loam is the best soil for seeds and plants. It does not get too wet or too dry. It has enough food to keep plants growing. Loam is like a mixture of sand and clay soils but is usually darker in colour.



Loam



Let's do Find out what kind of soil you have around your school.

- Walk around the school grounds with your friend and see if you can find sand, clay and loam.
- Bring soil from three different places back to class in tins or bags or cups.
- Number the containers 1, 2 and 3.



Let's talk Talk to your friend about the soil you brought from the school grounds. Answer these questions about each type of soil.

- What does the soil look like?
- What does the soil feel like?
- Were there plants growing in the soil?



Let's write Fill in where you found the soil in the first column and then colour in the correct answers.

Where did you find the soil?	How does it feel?			Were there plants growing in it?	
	dry	wet and sticky	crumbly	yes	no
	dry	wet and sticky	crumbly	yes	no
	dry	wet and sticky	crumbly	yes	no
	dry	wet and sticky	crumbly	yes	no



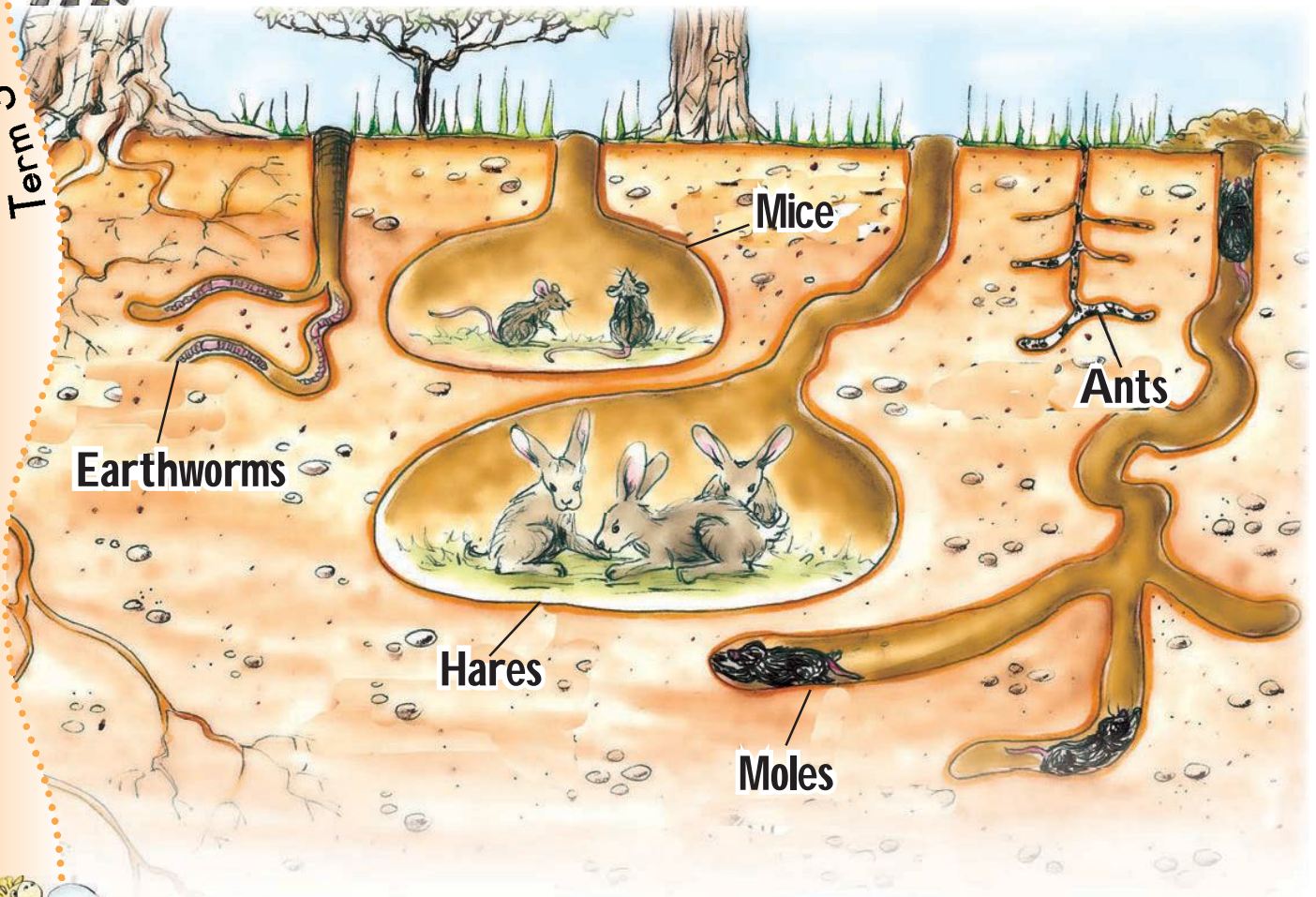
The importance of soil

Term 3 - Week 1



Let's talk

Look at the picture and talk about all the animals living in the ground.



Let's talk

Tell your friend what animals you see in the picture.

Can you think of other animals that live in the ground? Write down their names.



Let's do

- Draw or paint a picture of birds, fish or insects. Discuss their colour and shape.
- Collect natural objects like twigs, leaves, wool and sand. Make a collage. Talk about the colours, shapes and texture.

Date:



Let's write

Draw a line to match these things in the boxes on the left with their textures – they way they feel like – in the right.

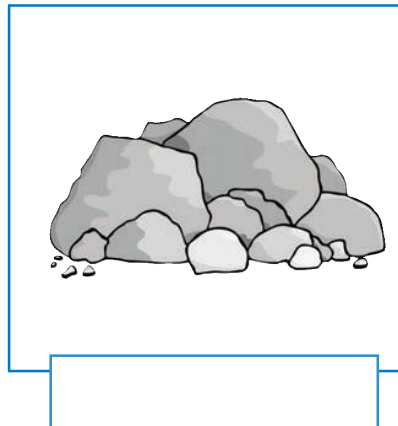
- syrup
- pillow
- thorn
- floor
- glass
- soap

- hard
- sticky
- smooth
- soft
- slippery
- sharp



Let's write

How do these things feel like? Fill in your answers.





Let's move

Form a circle. Run in a clockwise direction and then in an anti-clockwise direction. Then throw a ball from one learner to the next. Do this first in a clockwise direction and then in an anti-clockwise direction.

