

# Kids Page

## Digging Up

# DIRT

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### Underground World

Have you ever made a mud pie? It's a fun and dirty way to spend an afternoon. All you need is a little water and a few spoons of dirt. Mix it up, pour it in an old pie tin, and you have a yucky, goopy mud pie. Of course, you can't really eat it. It's just an interesting way to play with the stuff we call soil.

Soil is the layer of dirt right under your feet. You won't find soil on Mars. Other planets have rocks and dust, but not the substance we use to make mud pies here on Earth. Can you guess why? It takes life to create soil. It may not look like much, but it's really a complex mixture of minerals, air, water, decaying plants and animals, worms, and creatures too small to see without a microscope.

With good soil, you can do more than just make mud pies. You can also grow things — like grass, carrots and apple trees.

Jesus once told about a farmer who planted seed. Some of the seed fell on bad soil and didn't grow well. Other seed fell on good soil and grew nice, healthy plants. Jesus explained that the bad soil is like people who hear God's Word but don't allow it to live and grow in their hearts. But the good soil is like people who hear God's Word and choose to live for Jesus. They will grow more like Jesus as they experience the new life He offers.

"The seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop" (Luke 8:15, NIV).

If you don't know Jesus, ask Him to come and live in your heart right now. Ask Him to make your life like the good soil so that you can grow as a Christian.



### JUST FOR laughs

**What do worms like to ride?**  
Dirt bikes.

**What do you get when you cross a cowgirl with a tree branch?**  
Annie Oak-leaves.



### Try this!

Pack mud into an old ice cube tray and let the mixture sit in the sun until it dries. Carefully remove your dirt "bricks." Use them like blocks to build a tower or miniature house.



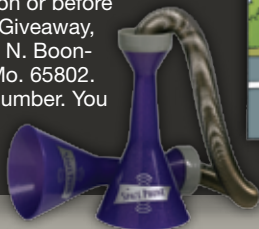
### Did you know?

Just a spoonful of soil can contain thousands of living creatures.

Depending on what a soil is made of, it can be many colors, like red, black, tan, brown and gray.

### Enter to win!

(Recommended for ages 8 and up with adult supervision.) A coiled spring in the Space Phone science toy creates wacky sounds for a fun conversation like no other. Enter online by October 7 at [pe.ag.org](http://pe.ag.org) or mail an entry postmarked on or before that date to Space Phone Giveaway, Pentecostal Evangel, 1445 N. Boonville Avenue, Springfield, Mo. 65802. Include a daytime phone number. You must have a parent's permission to enter.



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