

# **THE WORLD UNDER OUR FEET: THE SOIL**

Materia: Scienze

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# Learning Unit

THE WORLD UNDER OUR FEET: THE SOIL		
Type of school/ class	Secondary School 1 <sup>st</sup> grade – First class	
Subject	SCIENCE	
Duration of Unit/N. of lessons	Timing 7 lessons – 7 hours	
<b>TEACHING AIMS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ To enable learners to identify the main features of the soil, to classify the different types of soil and to describe the relationships between the organic and inorganic components</li><li>▪ To raise learners’ awareness about the origin of the soil, changes it can undergo and main sources of pollution</li><li>▪ To enable learners to apply some rules to preserve the soil</li><li>▪ To develop learners’ abilities such as: to classify, to compare, to predict and to reason</li><li>▪ To help learners understand that learning can be achieved in a <i>non native</i> language.</li></ul>		
<b>LEARNING OUTCOMES</b> Most students should ...		
<b>Know</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The meaning of soil</li><li>• The phases of soil formation</li><li>• The soil composition and profile</li><li>• About soil features</li><li>• About relationships between living organisms and soil</li><li>• Some negative and positive effects of human activity on the soil.</li><li>• The vocabulary and the expressions related to the soil they have learned.</li></ul>	<b>Be able to</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Observe various types of soil</li><li>• Identify the soil profile and components through pictures and simple experiences</li><li>• Identify some soil features through simple experiences</li><li>• Describe some relationships between biotic and abiotic components</li><li>• Identify some negative and positive effects of human activity on the soil.</li></ul>	<b>Be aware</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• That a small part of the lithosphere is needful for life</li><li>• That the soil formation is a long process</li><li>• That the soil is “a complex system”</li><li>• That the soil hides a lot of living organisms</li><li>• That small actions can preserve this resource.</li></ul>

<b>CONTENT</b> The soil: origin, structure, features and relationships with living organisms. The effects of human activities on the soil.		
<b>COMMUNICATION</b> <i>Vocabulary – structures – functions</i>		
<b>Language of learning</b>  <b>Vocabulary:</b> The soil components and profile The soil features Soil living organisms Laboratory instruments Some human activities in order to protect the soil <b>Preposition:</b> Above, under, in, between, next to, ... <b>Adjectives:</b> Solid, liquid, gaseous, mineral, organic, small, big, average, deep, shallow, light, dark, brown, ... <b>Verbs (to):</b> be, have, see, take, think, tell, divide, analyze, measure, transform, spill, crumble, ... <b>Functions:</b> To name, to identify and to classify the soil components and profile, living organisms and human activities; to recognize some laboratory instruments.	<b>Language for learning</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where is/are?</li> <li>• What is this? What are these?</li> <li>• What can you see? I can see....</li> <li>• How many....are there?</li> <li>• What's the biggest/smallest...?</li> <li>• What do you think? I think ...</li> <li>• Let's do an experiment..., let's work in teams, (imperative forms).</li> </ul> <b>Functions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ask and answer about objective information, to locate the soil profile</li> <li>• To ask and express opinions</li> <li>• simple present, present continuous, simple past.</li> </ul>	<b>Language through learning</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Language that emerges in carrying out tasks.</li> <li>• Dictionary use for vocabulary extension.</li> </ul>

**COGNITION**

To develop cognitive skills (remembering, understanding, identifying, ordering, comparing and contrasting, classifying, predicting and reasoning).

**CULTURE**

To develop learners' abilities to work and play with their friends.

To increase the awareness of soil protection because the soil is a precious and limited resource for humanity.

**RESOURCES**

- Internet Visual supports;
- Whiteboard
- Worksheets/ Science book;
- Pictures/Photos;
- Science laboratory.