Edible Soil

Edible Soil Profile

clear plastic cups breakfast cereal, some crushed, some whole shredded coconut
1/2 gallon milk plastic spoons

1. Explain that the plastic cup represents the parent material, the whole cereal represents the subsoil and the crushed cereal represents the topsoil. Sprinkle coconut on top to represent grass or other plant material.
2. Students should wash their hands before making their own soil profiles.
3. As you pour milk, explain that water moves through the soil in much the same way that milk moves through the cereal.

Edible Clay

(enough for 18 students)

2 c peanut butter* 1 c honey 3 c instant dry milk
oil wax paper

1. Grease measuring cup with vegetable oil.
2. Mix peanut butter with honey.
3. Add instant dry milk, a little at a time, until mixture is stiff.
4. Cover students' desks with wax paper, and have students wash their hands.
5. Spoon out the "edible clay" to each student and allow them to experiment and create with the clay.

Layers of Soil Snack

dried cherries (organic material) chocolate or butterscotch pudding (topsoil)
*chunky peanut butter (subsoil) bananas (parent material) rice cake (bedrock)

Students will use the materials provided to build the layers of soil, as indicated above

* If you have students who are allergic to peanuts, you may substitute hazelnut or some other kind of nut butter for the peanut butter.

Oklahoma Ag in the Classroom is a program of the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service, the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry and the Oklahoma State Department of Education.

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