

Name: _____

Date: _____



SOIL ♦ Student Worksheet

Lesson 4 ♦ Erosion

Grades 6th-8th

Welcome!

In this lesson, we will be exploring the important role that soil plays in the world outside of the garden, the effects of erosion on soil and the greater ecosystem, and ways that we can help protect our land.

Before watching the video, see if you can answer these questions:

1. What is erosion, and what are some causes of erosion?
2. The Earth is ever-changing and shifting. Give one example of how humans have changed the landscape of our planet:

As you watch the video, answer the questions below:

1. How much of planet Earth is land? _____
2. On what fraction of the Earth's land do people live? _____
3. On what fraction of the Earth's land can we grow food? _____
4. What is topsoil? How long does it take to form?
5. How does erosion affect the oceans?
6. What role do plants play in preventing erosion? Explain.

7. How do the different layers of a forest help capture more water during the water cycle?

Draw and label your answer below:

Follow Up:

1. After watching the video clip that demonstrates the processes of erosion on bare soil, how do you think wind and water might have affected the soil differently if there were plants growing in it? Explain.
2. Protecting our native forests and planting trees are just some ways that we can help protect the environment. What other actions can you take to help make a difference in your community and in the world?