

ACTIVITY / CRAFT (GRADES 2ND-5TH)

## SOIL SAMPLE + WATERCOLOR ACTIVITY

WHAT COLOR IS THE SOIL AROUND YOU?



1. Take samples from soils around your home
2. Keep the samples separate
3. Add water to each sample to make it a 'watercolor' soil sample
4. Paint the samples and label them somehow: perhaps with numbers or letters, or where the sample came from
5. Let the watercolor samples dry
6. You can make notes about the colors you see.
7. Notice any rocks or small particles you notice in the soil.
8. What differences do you notice about the dry or watercolor samples?
9. Use your soil watercolors to make a painting. You might use a sample scene from the Salt Marsh coloring book.

*If working with a group of students, have students share their soil samples and watercolor samples. Discuss what looks similar or different in each sample. Have students come up with ideas why their samples might be different or the same.*