TOUCH

DISCOVERING OUR WORLD
THROUGH HAPTIC & NATURAL TOUCH

04 SOIL MARKS

Make soil marks to connect with and understand the importance of soil and its textures to life on our planet.

"That soil is so cool! Is that clay?"

RESOURCES

- Small containers e.g. old yoghurt pots.
- Trowels or spoons.
- Stickers or labels.
- Bottle of water.
- Paper and old paint brushes.

LOCATION

Outdoors ☑ Classroom ☐ Home ☐ Other ☐



STEPS

Divide students into groups of three or four:

1. **Collect Your Soil:** Students gather small samples from different places in the grounds. (Label location.)
2. **Explore the Texture:** Ask students to feel each soil sample with their fingers to compare the textures. [Prompt: Is it gritty, smooth, crumbly, sticky, damp, dry, or ...?]
3. **Make Your Marks:** Students mix soil with water and PVA glue; using fingers or a paint brush, experiment with creating lines, patterns, shapes, or pictures on paper.
4. **Think About the Soil:** Discuss with students how the soil's texture affected the marks they made. What might these textures tell us about the soil and the life it supports?
5. **Reflect and Share:** Ask students to compare their artworks. What did they notice about the soil textures? Why do they think healthy soils are important? Talk about questions they have or things they would like to explore.

FOLLOW ON...

REVIEW	REDISCOVER	RESPOND
What surprised you and your students?	What textures did students notice?	How might you adapt this activity next time?

- Activity 5: Touching the world beneath our feet
- Activity 6: Sensory soil classification
- Activity 9: Create your own exhibition

See our full list of activities here...

https://sensescience.org/teacher-resources/

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