

**Suggested Pre-Field Trip Activities  
for Soil, Plants, & Bees at Wood Lake Nature Center**

**Vocabulary**

- |                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| • <b>Rock</b>      | • <b>Pollination</b> |
| • <b>Soil</b>      | • <b>Minerals</b>    |
| • <b>Honey Bee</b> | • <b>Life Cycle</b>  |

\*Review vocabulary.

\*Have students compare and contrast containers of rock, soil, sand and water.

\*Have students research the definition of a life cycle and draw another animal's life cycle (i.e. monarch, human, honey bee).

\*Discuss the five main needs for a healthy plant to grow; water, soil, sunlight, air and space.

\*Discuss the benefits of having healthy plants on earth (i.e. oxygen, food, homes for wildlife, paper, wood products, cotton for clothes).

\*Have students make soil soup in buckets from soil around the outside of the school. Include the main components: dead materials, living things, water, rock, and time.

**Suggested Post-Field Trip Activities  
For Soil, Plants, & Bees at Wood Lake Nature Center**

\*Review vocabulary.

\*Experiment: Plant seeds and test if seeds really need all five ingredients to grow healthy. One group places their planted seeds in the dark. Another group plants their seeds in rocks. And another group plants their seeds and do not water. Have a control group that gets all five needs met. Discuss outcomes of experiment results.

\*Have the students act out the life cycle of a plant.

\*Draw a class mural of a large plant/tree and label the parts of the plant.

\*Make a collage of pictures of all of the wonderful benefits of plants (fruit, pencils, bird nest, paper, clothes, etc).

\*Enjoy preparing and eating a salad. As a group, discuss what parts of plants they are eating and what the plants needed to grow. Suggestions:

- Leaf-lettuce
- Stem-celery
- Root-carrot
- Flower- broccoli
- Seed-sunflower seeds
- Fruit- apple or raisins