

**Suggested Pre-Field Trip Activities  
for Soil Soup/Rocks and Minerals/Underfoot  
at Wood Lake Nature Center**

**Vocabulary**

- Igneous
- Core/Inner Core
- Mantle/Crust
- Soil and Sediment
- Metamorphic
- Sedimentary
- Weathering
- Erosion
- Fossil

\*Review vocabulary list

\*Make a class list of what is under our feet in an average day.

\*Have students feel and smell soil. Ask them to describe what it feels like and guess what makes up soil.

\*Bring in a variety of rocks and have the students make their best guess if the rocks are igneous, sedimentary, or metamorphic.

\*Take a large foam ball and pretend it is the earth. Cut a wedge out of it and label the various parts (i.e. mantle, crust)

\*Watch a short video online of a volcano erupting and discuss the process as it relates to various parts of the earth (core, inner core) and its contribution to rock formation.

**Suggested Post-Field trip Activities  
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at Wood Lake Nature Center**

\*Review vocabulary list

\*Draw a class mural of what is under the earth's surface.

\*Have students make a song, rap, or poem about the five components of soil.

\*Dig some soil from the playground area of the school and give student a small amount and have them compare it with what they observed and experienced at Wood Lake. What are the similarities and differences?

\*Discuss with students the importance of soil and ways we can keep it healthy.

\*Plant beans in a variety of different types of soil (i.e. sandy, mucky, forest soil), from various places and place them under the same conditions (sunlight and water), and compare the growth of the beans. Discuss the outcomes.

\*Have students sketch and make comparisons to a variety of rocks and soil under a microscope.