

# Soil Mission!

Soils are the foundation of everything. They can be soft, hard, smooth, rocky, or sandy. Plants are picky about the soil they like to live in. Scientists who study soils are called edaphologists.

Steps to complete this mission:

- 1) Find an open space. This can be in a park, the wilderness, or your backyard. You choose!
- 2) Find a spot where there are plants growing and a spot where you only see soil. Fill out the fields below with your findings.

Date:

Time:

Location:

Weather (check one):



Feel the soil in both spots. Do they feel different? What colors are the soils?

Do you see animals in the soils? Why do you think there are no plants growing in one of the soils?

In the space below, draw the two types of soils observed.



Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to go outside! You may be surprised at how much fun a simple focused moment in nature can be. Please share with family and friends!



Post your parks/backyard nature photos and tag them with #NatureSceneInvestigator to win prizes from Inside the Outdoors Foundation.



Photos from Orange County locations posted on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram are eligible. Winners will be chosen quarterly.



For a complete listing of fun and safe parks and play areas in Orange County, visit:  
[www.funorangecountyparks.com](http://www.funorangecountyparks.com)

This mission has been brought to you by Inside the Outdoors Foundation. Have fun, and thanks for your support!

[www.insidetheoutdoors.org](http://www.insidetheoutdoors.org)



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