

Lesson Plan

Soil Solutions

Book: *Soil-Eating Animals*

Series: Weird Animal Diets

Level: Beacon

Objective

To help students identify the reasons that certain animals eat soil.

Supplies

- *Soil-Eating Animals* book
- Soil Solutions worksheet (attached)

Before the Activity

Print out a copy of the Soil Solutions worksheet for each student. Read through the *Soil-Eating Animals* book, or assign it to students to read on their own.

Activity

Pass out the Soil Solutions worksheets. Ask students to match each animal with the reason it eats soil. If students need help, they can look back at the *Soil-Eating Animals* book. Some answers are in the book's main text, but others are in fun facts or other special features.

Evaluation

Collect the worksheets at the end of class. Use the attached answer key to give students 1 point for each correct answer, for a total of up to 6 points.

Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational text, grade 3 (RI 3.1).

Soil Solutions

Match each animal to the reason it eats soil.

rat

to get salt that is important
for reproduction

butterfly

to help the stomach break
food into smaller pieces

gorilla

to rid the body of fungi

chicken

to rid the body of poison

elk

to keep the body from
losing too much water

cow

to get the minerals the
body needs

Soil Solutions

Match each animal to the reason it eats soil.

