

We All Need Soil

Materials Needed:

- a variety of stuffed animals or pictures of animals
- writing paper

Time:

approximately 30 minutes

Skills:

Science (soils)

Procedure:

Begin the activity by asking students how they use soil?

Answers could include:

- to grow our food
- to build our houses/buildings on
- to walk on
- to grow trees

Next, provide each student (or group of 2 students) a stuffed animal or picture of an animal. Try, if possible, to use animals native to Nebraska.

Ask students to brainstorm ideas for how their animal would use soil. This may be easy for some animals, but harder for other animals. Alternatively, you could provide each student/group of students one easy animal and one more difficult animal. Give students several minutes to brainstorm ways their animal(s) use soil.

Then, provide students with paper to write a fictional story about their animal. Instruct students that their story must include their animal and somehow it uses soil.

Invite students to draw a picture to go with their story.

