

MUD PIE MATH

Healthy soil is mostly made from a mix of dirt, water, air, and organic material.

Take a look at the recipe card below. What is the percentage of each ingredient found in soil? What are their ratios to each other?



RECIPE: *Classic Mud Pie*

(A.K.A. The Perfect Soil)

SERVES: *Everyone on Earth*

INGREDIENTS:

	<i>Dirt</i>
	<i>Water</i>
	<i>Air</i>
	<i>Organic Material</i>

DIRECTIONS: *Mix together the following*

				
				
				
				

Create a pie chart to express the proportion of each ingredient in healthy soil. Can you think of other ways to visually express this "recipe" for mud pie?

Extender Activity:

Place a piece of bread on a plate. On a separate plate, place raw flour in the same size and shape as the bread. Slowly pour water on the bread and notice what happens. Then pour water on the flour and notice what happens.

What is different about a living structure (like bread, or like healthy soil) versus a non-living structure (like flour, or like unhealthy soil without the right balance of ingredients)? How well can each absorb water? What happens to excess water? What do you think this experiment tells us about soil health in heavy rain, flooding, or other extreme weather?

