

# Get Dirty

Dirt is mostly made from three mineral materials: sand, silt, and clay. Dirt can have different amounts of these materials, and different amounts make unique textures. Check out the resources below to learn more about different textures.

Soil Science Society of America, *Soil Texture Analysis*

<https://www.soils4kids.org/files/s4k/soil-texture-experiment.pdf>

Kansas State Research & Extension Office,

*Eye on Agriculture: Soil Texture by Feel* (video 6:08)

<https://youtu.be/IOyaBxj767s>

Natural Resources Conservation Service, *Guide to Texture by Feel*

[https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/soils/edu/?cid=nrcs142p2\\_054311](https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/soils/edu/?cid=nrcs142p2_054311)

Can you test the texture of the dirt from your yard or neighborhood? Try any of the experiments above with the dirt that you collect.



*Extender Activity (ages 5-10):*

Check out the books and other resources listed on the next page!



Salt Tree Art  
[www.salttree.art](http://www.salttree.art)

Earth to Sky: Connecting with Our Ecosystem

# Dirt Reading

Dirt: The Scoop on Soil (Natalie Rosinsky)

Explore Soil! With 25 Great Projects (Kathleen Reilly)

Wiggling Worms at Work (Wendy Pfeffer)

Composting: Nature's Recyclers (Robin Koontz)

Under Your Feet... Soil, Sand, and Everything Underground (Wenjia Tang)

Soil (Sally Walker - 12:14 video): <https://youtu.be/8WaBPop2vSw>

