

# Wimmera Home Educators Group

## Investigating soils

Soils can be used for lots of discussion and shared learning about their largely unnoticed base for life.

### Soils come in many colours (below left)

Using the Soil Selfies photos for discussions towards a group decision on what goes with what to sort into whites, yellows, reds, browns and dark browns.

### Soils contribute to many uses (below right)

Using the Soil Selfies photos for sorting towards a group decision on 'use' groups for soils: food plants (crops, vegetables, fruit trees), buildings, natural areas.



### Soils have four main parts (below)

Using coloured blocks to model the proportions of a general healthy soil for:  
mineral matter (almost half),  
organic matter (about  $1/20^{\text{th}}$ ),  
water and air (about a  $1/4$  each varying with dry times – air takes up more space – and wet times – water droplets soak in pushing air out)



2015  
International  
Year of Soils

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