

SOIL

Healthy Life In The

= Healthy Life From The Soil

Many of the things we take for granted in our daily lives depend upon soil. For example;

some components of both cell phones and computers are manufactured using materials mined from soil, our homes are built with materials that grow in soil, the air we breathe is produced by plants that grow in soil, and most of the food we eat grows in or on soil.

For all of these reasons and many more it is important that our soil is healthy. **HEALTHY soil needs air, water, minerals, organic matter, and living elements** such as insects, worms and microbes.

Healthy Soil Word Search Find the words listed below on this placemat AND in this puzzle and circle them in **BOTH** places. Words in the puzzle can run up, down, forwards, backwards or diagonally.

V	W	T	I	C	L	R	C	Z	P	J	E	X	P	
O	E	X	S	K	R	O	S	Y	A	A	V	A	T	L
Q	D	G	S	O	N	E	N	E	F	Y	X	R	J	A
S	P	R	E	S	P	B	C	D	E	E	S	T	Y	N
S	C	M	E	T	F	M	E	Y	B	R	T	H	R	T
I	O	R	C	C	A	E	O	Q	C	A	T	W	E	S
W	V	O	R	I	A	T	Y	C	L	L	X	O	T	J
E	Y	O	F	G	N	H	I	D	Y	K	E	R	A	L
P	P	X	U	I	T	P	N	O	F	E	F	M	W	Y
S	G	H	C	L	U	M	O	D	N	N	U	S	L	D
H	Q	M	A	S	X	C	I	O	R	G	A	N	I	C
A	O	E	G	R	O	W	S	T	C	V	S	D	F	B
B	H	M	A	T	N	I	O	T	L	O	O	D	E	M
K	G	P	E	Y	W	K	R	N	I	O	Z	N	T	E
S	L	A	M	I	N	A	E	L	F	G	E	I	Y	X

- AIR
- ANIMALS
- COMPOST
- CONSERVE
- CROPS
- EARTHWORM
- EROSION
- FOOD
- GROW
- HEALTHY
- HOME
- LIFE
- MULCH
- ORGANIC
- PLANTS
- RECYCLE
- SOIL
- TREES
- VEGETATION
- WATER

There are **MILLIONS** of living organisms in every **GRAM** of soil! (One gram of soil is about the size of a navy bean.) These organisms do many things that make our life better such as:

- **increase soil fertility** - providing us with nutrient rich food.
- **produce some of the medications we use** - like antibiotics.
- **recycle carbon used by plants during photosynthesis** - giving us air to breathe.
- **filter water as it passes through** - helping purify our drinking water.

Healthy Lives Depend on Healthy Soil!



Healthy Soil =

Draw or write on the plate what you ate during your most recent meal.



A Healthy Meal

List two of the items from your plate on the lines below and relate each item to soil. For example, if one of the items you ate contained cheese:

Item	How Item Is Related To Soil
1. Cheese	Cheese is made from milk which comes from cows, who eat grasses that grow in soil.
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____



Visit www.nacdnet.org/general-resources/stewardship-and-education-materials/2019-life-in-the-soil-dig-deeper and www.soils4teachers.org for additional education materials.

