



We work with the people who work the land.



Headwaters Soil & Water Conservation District

2018 Science SOL-Based Environmental Education Programs for First Grade

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Or use Google Form to request a lesson: <https://forms.gle/4bA3NF4jeXpM6aCd8>

- **Conservation Poster Contest (K-12)** Poster contest held every spring and following the rotating natural resources theme set by the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD). Open to all K-12 students. An introductory presentation and lesson on the theme is available if requested. Contact the SWCD office for more information and entry forms.
- **Dirt By Steve Tomecek Guided Storytime (1.4, 1.5, 1.8)** A read-aloud story time where students get down in the dirt with a friendly star-nosed mole as he shows off the different parts of his garden and some amazing creatures who live in the dirt. During this exciting tour, children discover what soil is, how it is formed, and why this substance is vital to plants, animals, and humans. As resources allow, we provide a copy of the book for the classroom library.
- **Every Tree for Itself (1.4, 1.7)** An active simulation to give students an understanding of the conditions that trees need to live and grow and to help students learn that trees often must compete for their needs.
- **Freddy the Fish (1.5, 1.8)** This is a fun highly participatory activity to discuss how humans affect life processes and water quality. Each student is able to participate with their own 'stream' and 'fish'.
- **Interactive Soils Game (1.8)** It has long been known that the number one way to prevent soil erosion is by planting a cover crop for the soil such as trees, shrubs, grass or crops. This game attempts to demonstrate to the students how the plants help the soil. It can also be used to demonstrate the different kinds of soil and how well they absorb water.
- **Underground Classroom Visit (1.4, 1.8)** a 20-minute on-site field trip experience where students can experience and visually learn about the world beneath their feet. We cover why soil is an important natural resource, the benefit of soil to plants, and how the functions of plant roots in soil. And then relate back to why we as humans should want to conserve our soils. The tour can be combined with additional lessons for a longer hands-on field trip experience. A list of additional lessons specifically related to soils and the Underground Classroom is available.
- **We All Need Trees (1.8)** Students are often surprised to learn how many different products we get from trees. Students identify and categorize products we depend on that come from trees.
- **Who Polluted the River/All the Water in the World (1.8)** Students participate in an interactive story dramatizing how a water body becomes polluted as populations increase and resource use changes. Students will learn ways to conserve and preserve clean water.