

SAMPLE LESSON PLANS

MINI AND THREE-PART LESSON PLANS

Letter Writing for Students for Soil

These two lesson plans (mini and three-part lesson) can be modified based on your students' needs.

LEARNING GOAL: Students learn about the loss of organic content in the soil and the importance of soil health for their future.

CULMINATING TASK (independent activity): The students use their voice to express their concern for soil by writing letters to the president/prime minister.

CREATIVE CHOICES: Students can choose to write a letter or include an artwork, a poem, a song, rap, etc.

SAMPLE 1: MINI LESSON PLAN

- Examine a picture and activate students' prior knowledge.



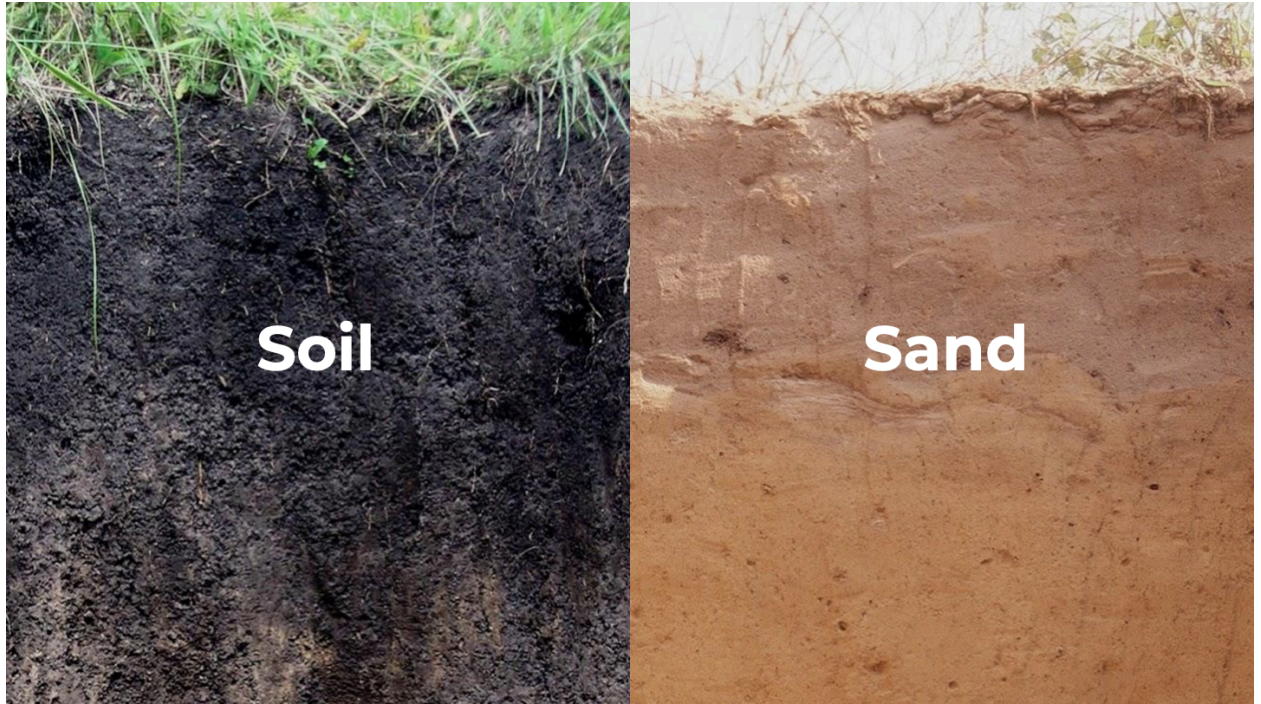
- Have a brief discussion on healthy soil compared to sandy soil.
 - Consider watching a video and engaging the students in further discussions
 - Consider watching a video and engaging the students in further discussions. Below are videos recommended for each age group.
 - [Video: Why save oil? Soil Creatures Explain](#) - animation, recommended for Kindergarten to 2nd grade
 - [Video: How our Lives Depend on Soil](#) - animation recommended for Kindergarten to 3rd grade
 - [Video - How Healthy Soil Stores Carbon.mp4](#) - recommended for 5th-8th grades

- This video was originally posted on the 'Save Soil - a global exhibition of art, poetry & more' Facebook page and is narrated by Áine Donellan from Gothenburg, Sweden
 - [Video: Save Soil before it's too Late](#) - recommended for 5th-8th grades
 - [Video: Is Soil Alive?](#) - recommended for 7th-8th grades
 - [Why Save Soil? Young People Explain](#) - recommended for 6th-9th grades
 - [Save Soil: Our Very Body | Conscious Planet](#) - recommended for 9th-12th grades
- Engage students in the letter writing activity.
 - **Include student name, grade level, school name, and state in the letter.**
 - Addressing the President of the United States
 - Subject: "Save our Soil"
 - Opening: "Dear Mr. President,"
 - Closing: "Yours sincerely,"
 - Addressing the Prime Minister of Canada
 - Subject: "Save our Soil"
 - Opening: "Dear Prime Minister,"
 - Closing: "Yours sincerely,"
- Letter submission
 - **Details for submitting letters directly to each country's president or prime minister are on this [website](#).**
 - Submit the letters **ideally by Earth Day on April 22, 2022**, although they may be submitted through the end of the academic school year at the end of June.
- Additional sample content for reference
 - Save Soil website: www.savesoil.org
 - Sample pictures: [Images for Lesson Plan.pptx](#)

SAMPLE 2: THREE-PART LESSON PLAN

1) BEFORE:

MINDS ON ACTIVITY: The teacher activates students' prior knowledge by sharing a picture.



The teacher may engage the students in discussing the differences between soil and sand. The teacher may record the responses.

Additional resources for discussion are available here: [Additional References for Teachers.docx](#)

2) DURING:

ANNOUNCE THE TOPIC: The teacher may post another anchor chart in the class with a title, SAVE OUR SOIL, with some discussion questions on it:

- Could we have a food shortage due to healthy soil turning into sand?
- Do you think our soil is in danger?
- Why is it important that our soil is healthy?
- How can we help conserve the soil quality?



The teacher can wrap up the discussion and say, “It is important that we save our soil so that it grows healthy food for us. Now, let us watch a video to learn about soil degradation.” Students may be engaged in further discussion based on a video.:

- [Video: How our Lives Depend on Soil](#) - animation recommended for Kindergarten to 3rd grade
- [Video - How Healthy Soil Stores Carbon.mp4](#) - recommended for 5th-8th grades
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3) AFTER:

CULMINATING TASK (independent activity): The teacher engages the students in a letter writing activity.

- Engage students in the letter writing activity.
 - Include student name, grade level, and school name , location in the letter.
 - Addressing the President of the United States
 - Subject: “Save our Soil”
 - Opening: “Dear Mr. President,”
 - Closing: “Yours sincerely,”
 - Addressing the Prime Minister of Canada
 - Subject: “Save our Soil”

- Opening: “Dear Prime Minister,”
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- Letter submission
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 - Submit the letters **ideally by Earth Day on April 22, 2022**, although they may be submitted **by the end of June**.
- Additional sample content for reference
 - Save Soil website: www.savesoil.org
 - Sample pictures: [Images for Lesson Plan.pptx](#)
 - This is a global movement. This is an [example](#) of an international video of activities students have done.

GROUP ACTIVITY (optional): The teacher can engage students in other activities such as:

- Use the Save Soil theme song to sing a song, which is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=reOYJvjwuRM>
- Engage in the Save Soil dance challenge on social media at #savesoildance on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#)
 - Materials for the dance challenge are in this [toolkit](#).
 - This is an [example](#) video for the dance challenge.
- Learn the Save Soil dance
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T6GvyG22Lyg>

*****LETTER SUBMISSION:** Details for submitting letters by country are on this [website](#). Submit the letters ideally by Earth Day on April 22, 2022, although they can be **submitted by the end of June**.*** Include student name, grade level, and school name in the letter. schools.americas@savesoil.org.