

Badgery Science Fun 22 ans

Soil

Soil is very important to badgers. That's where they find most of their food – worms. (Yummy!) Soil is fantastic stuff! We all use it to grow our plants in. Without soil – no food, for badgers or us!

But what is soil? Soil is mad of four main things:



rocks



dead plants and animals(humus)



air



water

Can you say what you think they are? (The clues are in the pictures.)

Soil is teeming with life! Lots of invertebrates live there. They help to turn the soil over. They let in air and drag down dead things to rot. They provide **SUNNTETRI** for plants to feed on. **NUTRIENTS**

You could try to make a wormery. It's quite easy. Just cut the top off a bottle and poke a few holes in the bottom. Fill your wormery with layers of gravel, (in the bottom), sand, topsoil, compost, wet paper and dead leaves. Collect a few worms and pop them into your wormery. Drop in a few bits of raw vegetable and cover the bottle with something to keep it dark. (Dark paper taped around it usually does the trick. Watch your worms' activity for a few weeks, and then let them go again. *(Release them at night, as sunlight paralyses worms, and they will die!)*

You can buy wormeries at a number of websites:

<http://www.wigglywiggles.co.uk>

<http://www.wormcity.co.uk/>

<http://www.originalorganics.co.uk/>

<http://www.wormery.co.uk/>

<http://www.the-gardeners-calendar.co.uk/default.asp>

<http://www.thewormery.co.uk/>

<http://www.bucketofworms.co.uk/wormery.html>

**COMPOST YOUR
GARDEN AND RAW
VEG WASTE.
KEEP IT OUT OF
LANDFILL!**



What would we
badgers do
without our
lovely soil?