



*Grade Level:* **Kindergarten**

*Title:*

## **Components of Soil & Spiritual Soil**

*Denomination:* **Catholic**

*Lesson ID:* **ES-GK-03-CA**

**Contact Info:**

Exploring the World, Discovering God (EWDG)  
Institute for Theological Encounter with Science & Technology (ITEST)  
20 Archbishop May Drive, Suite 3400A  
St. Louis, MO 63119

EWDG email: [EWDG-Info@creationlens.org](mailto:EWDG-Info@creationlens.org)

EWDG web site: [www.creationlens.org](http://www.creationlens.org)

ITEST web site: [www.faithscience.org](http://www.faithscience.org)

Ph: 314.792.7220

***Note: Web sites referenced in this lesson were valid at time of publication.***

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## EARTH SCIENCE MODULE – KINDERGARTEN – CATHOLIC LESSON 3 – What's in the soil? and The Parable of the Sower

**GENERAL CONCEPT:** What's in physical soil and spiritual soil can affect growth.

### SCIENCE LESSON CONCEPT

The soil is made up of sand, silt, clay, humus, organic material from rotting vegetation, roots, and animals.

### GOAL OF SCIENCE LESSON

1. Student will know what is in soil.
2. Student will be able to identify objects in the soil.

### OUTCOME EXPECTED

Student will know why good soil helps plants to grow.

### MATERIALS NEEDED

- Clear plastic tub of soil with grass on top or several tubs if the class is large.

### RELIGION LESSON CONCEPT

The Sower of the seed plants the seed of faith in our spiritual soil, but in order to grow the soil must be rich.

### GOAL OF RELIGION LESSON

1. Student will know the Parable of the Sower.
2. Student will be able to explain how to enrich her/his spiritual soil.

### OUTCOME EXPECTED

Student will begin to practice enriching the life of her/his soul.

### MATERIALS NEEDED

- Parable of the Sower in child's language. Mt. 13:18-23
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- Be sure soil sample has rocks, roots, and worms in it
- Gardening tools
- Plastic gloves for students
- Science Journal Page: What's In the Soil?
- Pencils
- Crayons or markers
- Plastic cloths on which to put the soil
- Large planter box, and some seeds

### SCIENCE METHODOLOGY

- **ASK:** What can you see on the top of the tub?  
(grass, plants)
- **ASK:** What might be under the grass and plants?  
Write the students answers on the board.
- **SAY:** Scientists have to explore a bit to get the correct answer. Let's see if our answers are correct. We are

- Vocabulary cards with the following words: rocky ground, thorny ground, rich soil, no roots, choked out, bears fruit, seeds.
- Pictures of rocky ground, thorny ground, and rich soil
- Coffee cup with lid for each student
- Soil to fill sup \_ full
- Rye grass seed or dried beans (3 or 4) for each student
- Picture of the Sower to color
- Glue, scissors
- Markers or crayons

### RELIGION METHODOLOGY

- **GATHER** the students in a prayer circle and tell them that you are going to tell them one of the stories or parables that Jesus told his Apostles.
- **READ** the child's version of the Parable of the Sower that is found in Matthew 13:18-23
- **HAVE** the children tell the story back to you with the help of the vocabulary cards. Place the seeds card on the top. Under it, place the three kinds of ground

- going to use the gardening tools and our hands to investigate the soil under the grass and plants.
- **GIVE** each student a pair of plastic gloves and some of them gardening tools.
- Have those with gardening tools break up the soil.
- **REMOVE** some of the soil to the plastic cloth.
- **HAVE** other students break it apart searching for items in the soil.
- **WRITE** the names of what they find on the board.
- **AFTER** the soil has been investigated thoroughly, have the students put the soil back in the tub, throw away their plastic gloves, and wash their hands.
- **GATHER** the items they have found and place the vocabulary cards near each type of item.
- **DISCUSS** what they found and how that makes the soil rich for growing plants.
- **GIVE** each student the Science Journal Page: What's In the Soil and have them draw the tub with the soil and the items in the soil.
- **PLACE** the soil from the experiment in the large planter and plant the seeds. Place it in a sunny location and water it. Have the students watch for growth.

cards as the students tell you the story.

- **PLACE** the other cards under what happened to the seeds in each type of soil.
- **ASK:** What was Jesus telling the Apostles and us about the seed of FAITH? (it must be in good soil in order to grow or it will die.)
- **ASK:** How can we make our soul a good place to grow our faith? (Prayer, Go to Mass, Obey Parents, Be kind, Be polite, etc.)
- **TELL** the student that they are going to plant some seeds and see if they can grow them (either at home or in school).
- **GIVE** each student the Sower of the Seed coloring page and have them color it.
- **GIVE** each student a coffee cup and have them put their name on the bottom and have them glue the Sower picture to the coffee cup.
- **HAVE** each student come for some soil for the planter.
- **HAVE** each student choose some seeds (3-4).
- **TELL** the student to poke the seeds under the soil about 1 knuckle deep and cover the seeds.
- **GIVE** each student a lid for the coffee cup and store it in the classroom until dismissal if they are going to grow the plants at home. Otherwise, do NOT do the

**POSIT:** Soil has many ingredients and those ingredients help plants to grow.

give the lids. Place the coffee cups in a sunny location and keep the soil moist until sprouts are visible. Then water as soil dries out.

- **HAVE** the students monitor the progress of their cups.

**POSIT:** We need to enrich our souls with prayer and good deeds so the seeds of faith will grow and bear fruit.

## RESOURCES, LINKS, AND COMPUTER LESSONS

### SCIENCE RESOURCES

(Teacher) [Composting With Worms](#)

A classroom composting experiment demonstrates why worms are called...Click on Composting With Worms to go to website.

<http://www.nea.org/lessons/tt070409.html>

(Teacher) [Thanksgiving Science Experiment](#)

This plant-growing experiment for grades preK-5 shows how Squanto helped the early settlers. Click on Thanksgiving Science Experiment to go to website.

<http://www.nea.org/lessons/tt061120.html>

(Teacher) [For the Beans](#)

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with a science and social studies activity.

<http://www.nea.org/lessons/2005/tt050919.html>

### RELIGIOUS RESOURCES,

(Teacher) [Children's Sunday School Curriculum - Parable of the Sower \(Lesson 1\)](#)

The **parable of the sower** will introduce **children** to how people react when they hear the Gospel.

[www.kidssundayschool.com/Gradeschool/Lessons/1sower01.php](http://www.kidssundayschool.com/Gradeschool/Lessons/1sower01.php)

(Student) [Children's Bible Stories. Parable of the Sower.](#)

Animated **children's** bible story. **Parable of the Sower.**

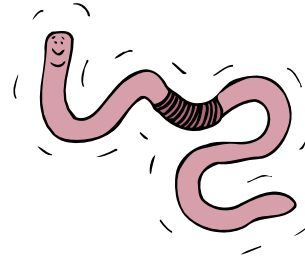
[wordofloveforyou.com/so1.htm](http://wordofloveforyou.com/so1.htm) - 3k -

(Teacher) [Parables of Jesus - Commentaries, Meditations, Clipart, Puzzles ...](#)

"**Parable of the Sower**", **children's** study, puzzles , coloring sheet - Higher Praise Christian Center. The **parable** of the seed, The Carmelite Web Site ...  
[www.silk.net/RelEd/parables.htm](http://www.silk.net/RelEd/parables.htm) -

**Coloring page for cup; puzzle and adult information.**

**KEY WORDS**  
**EARTH SCIENCE – LESSON 3 – KINDERGARTEN - CA**



**SOIL**

**SAND**

**CLAY**

**HUMUS**

**ROTTING VEGETATION**

**PLANT**

**PARABLE**

**SOWER**

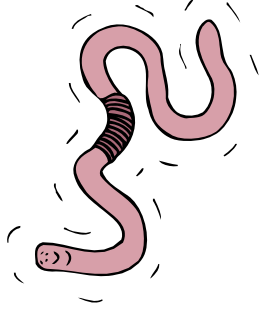
**FAITH**

**SPIRITUAL**

**GROW**

**APOSTLE**

**KEY WORDS**  
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