Hole Digging
for Ages 5–12

Digging holes is a great way to explore what’s beneath our feet and find new ways of creating!

ITEMS YOU WILL NEED:
A small shovel or an old spoon and a space you are allowed to dig in

OPTIONAL EXTRAS:
Water

1. Find a space to dig without plants in the way. A mulched flower bed or bit of a yard without grass works really well.

2. Using a small shovel or an old spoon, start digging a small hole. Notice the soil you’re finding. Is it light or dark brown? What does it smell like? Are there any worms or critters living in it?

3. As you dig a bit deeper you might begin to notice changes in the soil and what might be living in it. Play with some of the soil in your hands. Can you find soil that sticks together like clay? If the soil is very dry, you can try adding a bit of water. Try making a ball, a bead, or a face out of the soil that you’ve found. You can try adding water to see if it changes how well the soil molds into different shapes.

4. Gently place any critters you’ve found back in the hole and refill it with the soil you’ve dug up! To remember what you saw underground, try drawing a picture of all of the things you discovered!

TO FURTHER EXTEND THIS ACTIVITY:
Learn more about the soil you’re exploring through Scishow Kids or listen to this fun Sesame Street song about dirt.