

Small Thing Finder!

Did you know? A teaspoon of soil contains between 100 million and 1 billion living things.

Source: <https://web.extension.illinois.edu/soil/SoilBiology/bacteria.htm>

While we can't see most of these tiny living things in the soil. We can use a simple tool to help us focus our observations on some small things we might otherwise overlook while we study soil!

Make a Small Thing Finder by using a permanent marker to draw a small circle to a craft stick (or piece of paper)!

Then, encourage your soil scientist to explore and observe the ground closely. Try to find something - or many things - that are smaller than the circle on the small thing finder. Consider exploring in a few spots.

Ask:

What did you notice?

What was interesting or different about exploring this way?

Was anything challenging about using your Small Thing Finder?

What was your favorite discovery?

