



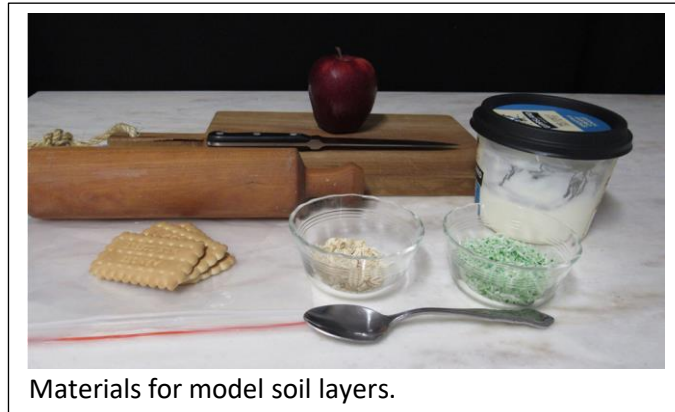
## Creating an Edible Soil Profile Model

### Aim

To create an edible model of a typical soil profile

### Materials (per person)

- Clear cup
- Spoon
- Apple
- Knife
- Chopping board
- 3 Plain sweet biscuits
- Ziploc bag
- Rolling pin
- Rolled oats
- Shredded coconut (option to dye green with food colouring)
- Yoghurt
- Sticker labels for O, A, B, C and D soil horizons



Materials for model soil layers.

### Risk Assessment

Risk	Control
Cuts from knife	Cut away from hand. Keep fingers clear of blade.
Contamination from chemicals or microbes in science lab if eaten	Construct the model using clean food utensils in a room not used for science experiments.

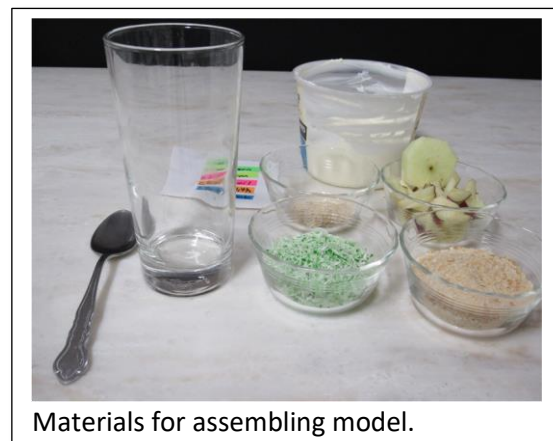
### Method

#### Apple preparation

- Place the apple on its side on the chopping board and cut a slice. Trim the slice to fit the bottom of the glass.
- Chop ¼ of the remaining apple.

#### Biscuit preparation

- Roughly break the biscuits and place in the Ziploc bag.
- Seal the bag and then roll with the rolling pin to finely crush the biscuit.



Materials for assembling model.



### Assemble the model

- Place the apple slice on the bottom of the cup. Label this with the D sticker.
- Add chopped apple. Label with the C sticker.
- Spoon in yoghurt to make a thick layer. Label with the B sticker.
- Sprinkle in crushed biscuit. Add some rolled oats to this layer. Label with the A sticker.
- Top with shredded coconut with rolled oats mixed in. Label with the O sticker.



### Analysis

1. Outline one advantage and one disadvantage of this activity as a model soil profile. \_\_\_\_\_

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2. How could you modify this model to represent the relative size of each layer in your local area?  
You may need to research local soils! \_\_\_\_\_

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### Explore

Learn more from the **Soil Reading**.

Watch the Australian Earth Science Education YouTube videos showing how to make a scrumptious soil profile and exploring [soil components](#).

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