Target Grade Level: Kindergarten

Title of Lesson: Objects found in Soil

Unit Title: Rocks and Soil

Performance Standard(s) Covered: SKE2: Students will describe the physical attributes of rocks and soil.
   a. Use senses to observe and group rocks by physical attributes such as large/small, heavy/light, smooth/rough, dark/light, etc.
   b. Use senses to observe soils by physical attributes such as smell, texture, color, particle/grain size.
   c. Recognize earth materials—soil, rocks, water, air, etc.

Essential Question: How can I show the things I can find in soil? What is soil made of?

Objective: Students will be able to identify different objects found in the soil. Students will be able to understand which living objects thrive in soil. Students will also be able to identify the different uses for soil.

Key Words and Terms: Soil, Rocks, Nutrients, Minerals

Learning Activity

Abstract (limit 100 characters): Students will begin lesson by singing the soil song that they have been learning throughout the course of the unit. Next, I will present a powerpoint of the
elements in soil along with the different uses soil has. Students will then proceed to create their own “dirt cup” using edible components which will later transition into a snack. After the activity is complete, students will come back together to name the different types and components of soil.

Materials Needed:

Crushed Oreos (2 packs crushed)- puree in a blender for best results  
Gummy Worms (3 per student)  
Chocolate Pudding  
Donut Holes (3 per student)  
Cups (1 per student)  
Powerpoint  
Youtube Video of Song

Safety Concerns: Be aware of diabetic children.

Procedure:

1. Begin lesson by having students sing the soil song along with Youtube video.

2. Present powerpoint of different uses of soil and the elements found in it.

3. Have students go to their seats to prepare for the activity.

4. Have 3 children who were best behaved throughout the presentation to be the “materials helper.”

5. Have each child hand out 1 cup, 3 gummy worms, and 3 donut holes per student.

6. Next pass out the pudding and crushed oreos to each student.

7. Have students assemble the dirt cup in the following way. Place the three donut holes (bedrock) on the bottom of the cup.

8. Next, have each student place a scoop of pudding (humus) on top of the donut holes.

9. Then, have each student place crushed Oreos on top as the top layer (top soil).

10. Each student will place the gummy worms in the top soil.
11. Once the activity is complete, each student can eat their dirt cup before returning to the carpet to review the lesson.

12. After all students have finished eating their snack, have them come to the rainbow carpet to review the different types of soil and the elements found in it.

** Modifications:** Be sure to have the teacher hand out the crushed Oreo’s and pudding in order to avoid a mess. Also, be sure to use large, clear cups. Eating the dirt cup was very time consuming, so if in a time crunch save the dirt cups for recess.

**References:** None