

## **SENSORY SOIL ACTIVITY – EDUCATOR INSTRUCTIONS**

This is a wonderful opportunity for the children to explore soil at their own pace in pairs or small groups and connect in with their senses.

### **You will need:**

- **Sensory Soil Resource Card**
- Soil samples in trays or buckets - could have a selection or just one – Compost Bin Soil/ Garden Soil/ Soil from under mulch around a tree
- Hand Forks
- Magnifying glasses if available and children want to look a little closer

### **What to do:**

1. Ask the children if they know what their Senses are and prompt them with pointing to your 5 senses – Touch, Smell, Sight, Taste and Sound and some everyday ways in which we use these Super Senses.
2. Let the children know that we are going to use 3 of the Senses today to explore Soil.
3. Read through the **Sensory Soil Resource Card** with the children pointing to the parts of the body that they will use.
4. Show the children the Soil samples that you have prepared in trays. You could provide some different samples for the children to compare if you want to extend this activity – soil from the compost bin/ soil from the garden beds/ soil from under mulch around any trees.
5. Take a sense at a time using the **Sensory Soil Resource Card** and ask the children the questions e.g. Feel the Soil – What does the soil feel like? Gritty? Sandy? Soft? – add more questions in if you think of more.
6. If using multiple soil samples repeat the Sense for all soils and talk about the differences and then move onto the next Sense.
7. If using multiple soil samples, ask the children at the end of the activity which soil they liked to explore the most and why?
8. If using only one soil sample, ask the children which sense they liked exploring the most and why.
9. Collect all resources and pack away.
10. Wash hands