

# Soil Health Workshops

## Introduction:

- What are soils?
  - Living
  - Dead (decomposition)
- Definition of soil & soil health
  - Breakdown of soil (%)s
  - Make connections to human health (living)
    - How is health measured?
    - What does it mean for humans vs soils?
- Why should we care about soils? As a child or adult?
  - Holistic point of views
    - Mental health
    - Spirituality
    - Connecting with others
  - Ecosystem services/ Soil functions
    - Habitat
    - Food
    - Fuel
    - Fiber etc.

## Demonstrations/ Active Participation

### Start Soil Aggregates:

- Describing two different soils
- Ask for guesses
- Start timer

### Start bracelet explanation (directly from [agronomy4me.org](http://agronomy4me.org))

- String the colored beads to represent the circles of the Earth on the elastic cord. Tie knot to secure the bracelet.

### Finish Aggregate demo:

Rest of time for bracelet color breakdown and questions

### Color Representing

- Clear bead **People**
  - People move in circles. The Earth provides us with everything we need to survive. We must take great care of our valuable resources!

- Blue pony bead **Water**
  - Water is a circle. Water rains down on the land. Water collects in oceans, rivers, lakes, and streams. It evaporates back up into the sky and collects in clouds. The clouds become heavy, and rain falls down to land again.
- Green pony bead **Plants**
- Brown pony bead **Soil**
  - Plants and soil are circles. Plants grow from soil. Plants provide food for animals. Animals provide food for other animals. Animals die and decompose. New soil is made. New plants grow.
- Orange pony bead **Day**
- Black pony bead **Night**
  - Earth is a circle. Earth is spinning through space, rotating on its axis, revolving around the Sun. The Earth and Sun give us the circle of seasons and the circle of night and day.
- White pony bead **Air**
  - Animals breathe in oxygen and exhale carbon dioxide. Plants take in carbon dioxide, use it to make food, and give off oxygen. Animals breathe it in again. Air is a circle.
- Yellow pony bead **Sun**
  - The Sun is a circle. The Sun provides warmth and light for all of the Earth's circles. Without the Sun, plants and animals would not survive. The Sun binds us together

## Materials & Supplies:

- Elastic string (pre-cut)
- Beads:
  - Clear
  - Blue
  - Green
  - Orange
  - Black
  - White
  - Yellow
- 2 Beakers
- 2 Soils
- 2 Sieves
- Tarp