

2025 Book of the Year

**FARM
BUREAU
GEORGIA**

The Soil in Jackie's Garden

By Peggy Thomas

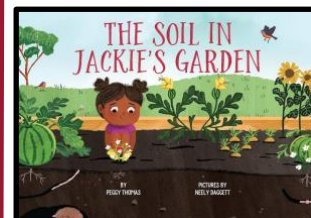
Jackie and her garden friends embrace the joys of planting a garden, nurturing and harvesting their own food, and recycling scraps to compost, ensuring that the magical cycle of growth and sustainability continues anew.

Science facts about soil, plants, pollinators, decomposers, and more are included on every spread.

A fantastic book to engage young readers in becoming environmental stewards, learning how to care for a garden, understanding a plant life cycle, discovering the power of pollinators and the importance of composting.

Written in the cumulative style of "The House that Jack Built," this playful celebration of how things grow, return to the earth, and grow again will inspire young readers to try their hands at gardening and composting.

Back matter includes information on the soil cycle and how to make a compost pile.



[Read Aloud in English](#)

[Read Aloud in Spanish](#)

Fun Facts:

- There are more living things in a handful of soil than there are people on Earth! Tiny creatures like worms, bacteria, and fungi help keep soil healthy.
- It can take 500 years to make just one inch of topsoil!
- Soil isn't just brown! It can be red, black, yellow, or even white, depending on the minerals inside.
- Worms help mix up the soil and make tunnels that help plants' roots grow.
- When it rains, soil acts like a filter, helping to clean the water before it reaches rivers and lakes.
- Sandy soil feels gritty, clay soil is sticky, and loamy soil is the best for growing plants because it holds just the right amount of water.
- Georgia's state soil, Tifton soil, is a deep, well-drained soil found in over 2 million acres, perfect for growing crops. It holds water well but also drains enough to keep plant roots from getting too wet.
- Georgia has over 400 different types of soil! These soils vary based on location, texture, drainage, and how well they support plants.
- There are over 1,900 different types of soil in the world!

Videos:

- Adventures at: [SunWoman Farms](#), [UGA Soil Lab](#) and [Soil Sampling with an UGA Extension Agent](#)

Activities:

- Recipes: [Editable Soil Recipe Page with Activity](#) * [Edible Soil Layer Rec Cards](#) * [Garden Trail Mix](#)
- Coloring Pages: [Soil Layers](#) * [Soil](#) * [Earth Worms](#) * [Vermicomposting](#) * [Composting](#) * [Garden](#) * [Garden Seasons](#)
- Resources/Activities: [School garden through the seasons](#) * [Plant Life Cycle Bracelet](#) * [I Spy-Garden Themed](#) * [State Soil Booklet](#) * [Garden Journal](#) * [Milk Carton pot wrapper for milk carton](#) * [Plant Seeds in Milk Cartons -Seed observation wrapper that can be placed on the carton](#) * [Soil Puzzle](#) * [Soil Facts Bulletin Board Cutouts](#) * [Go Garden Card Game](#) * [Harvest poster- Letter sized or Legal paper sized](#) * [Fruit and Vegetable Wordsearch](#) * [Garden Themed Photo Booth Signs](#)
- Bookmarks: [Soil Layers](#) * [Soil](#) * [Garden](#) * [Worm](#) * [Compost](#)
- Soil Ag Mag: [K-2](#) and [3-5](#)
- Lessons: [Caring for the Land Grades 3-5](#) * [Color in the Garden Grades 3-5](#)
- UGA Lessons: [Grades K-2 and 3-5 Lesson Plans](#)
- [Educator Guide](#)

Visit gfb.ag/aic for more activities