

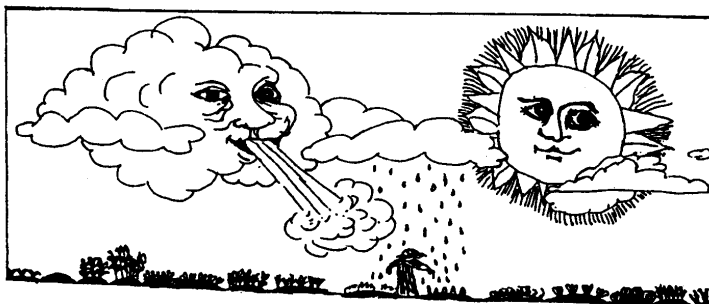
# It's As Simple As One, Two, Three...Four

**Description**

In this short activity, students hold soil and water in their hands.

**Objective**

To identify the four basic necessities of life: air, water, soil, sun.



**Teacher Background**

This unit of outdoor gardening activities starts by reminding students what they learned in the Growing Unit: Life depends on plants, which need soil, water, sunlight, and air in order to grow.

**Materials**

Water  
Soil



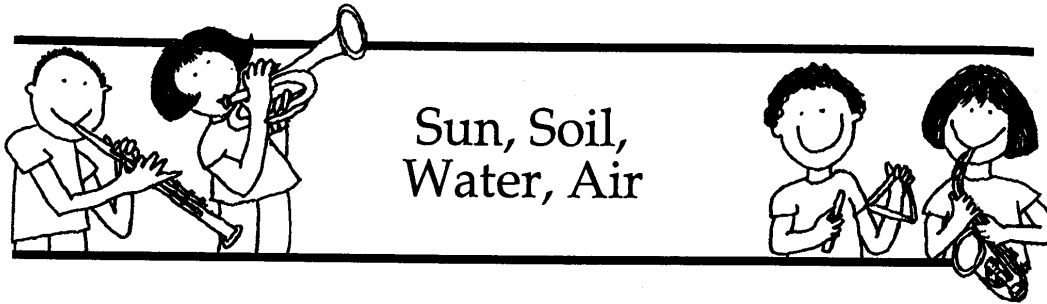
To be good gardeners, we have to pay attention to what plants need in order to grow. If we care for them, they will grow to be healthy and give us food. So we will start by going on a mystery search for the four ingredients plants need.



1. At a water faucet in the garden, have the students cup their hands together and scoop up water and soil.
2. Tell students that they are holding in their hands the four basic ingredients necessary for all life to exist. Ask, Can you name them?



Why are these four ingredients so important to life? What would life be like without any one of the Big Four? How can you help plants in your garden get all four of them?



(To be chanted in a round)

Sun, soil, water, air.  
Sun, soil, water, air.  
Everything you eat  
and everything you wear  
comes from  
Sun, soil, water, air.