

Ecology: the study of the interactions between organisms & their environment

Soil ecology: studying the soil ecosystem, which consists of: minerals (dirt), organic material (decaying, dead, formerly living creatures), organisms

## SOIL ORGANISMS:

- Classify & identify
- Trophic level:
  - producer — make their own food from the sun's energy
  - consumer — eat other organisms (producers, consumers, decomposers)
  - decomposer — a special type of consumer that dissolve the things they're eating
- Food webs! — show which organisms eat other organisms in an ecosystem.

# Soil organism extraction

