

## Why does soil get washed away?

### Investigating why some farmers lose their soil through erosion while others do not

#### **From Pepe, Argentina**

I performed the demonstration with my kids and we enjoyed it very much. They become very interested in the origin of the names of several rivers when they saw that small particles from the soil colored the water. Names like Colorado (red in Spanish), Yellow, Black, Blue, White, etc. used for rivers all over the world give important information about the soil and rocks being eroded in their sources. Continue with these activities, they are cheap, amusing and actually become learning experiences.

#### **From a colleague, South America**

Although the activity is more related to erosion being caused by water, wind can do a hard work on the subject as the text mentions in the Back Up. I suggest showing the students the picture Erosion N°2, by the painter Alexandre Hogue (easily available in the web) and invite them to discuss about its meaning. They can also perform an investigation about the Dust Bowl in the web, there are lot of resources about it.

#### **From Earthlearningidea, UK**

Painting with soil can be fun and educational as different minerals from underlying rocks give soils their different colours.



Photos by Peter Kennett