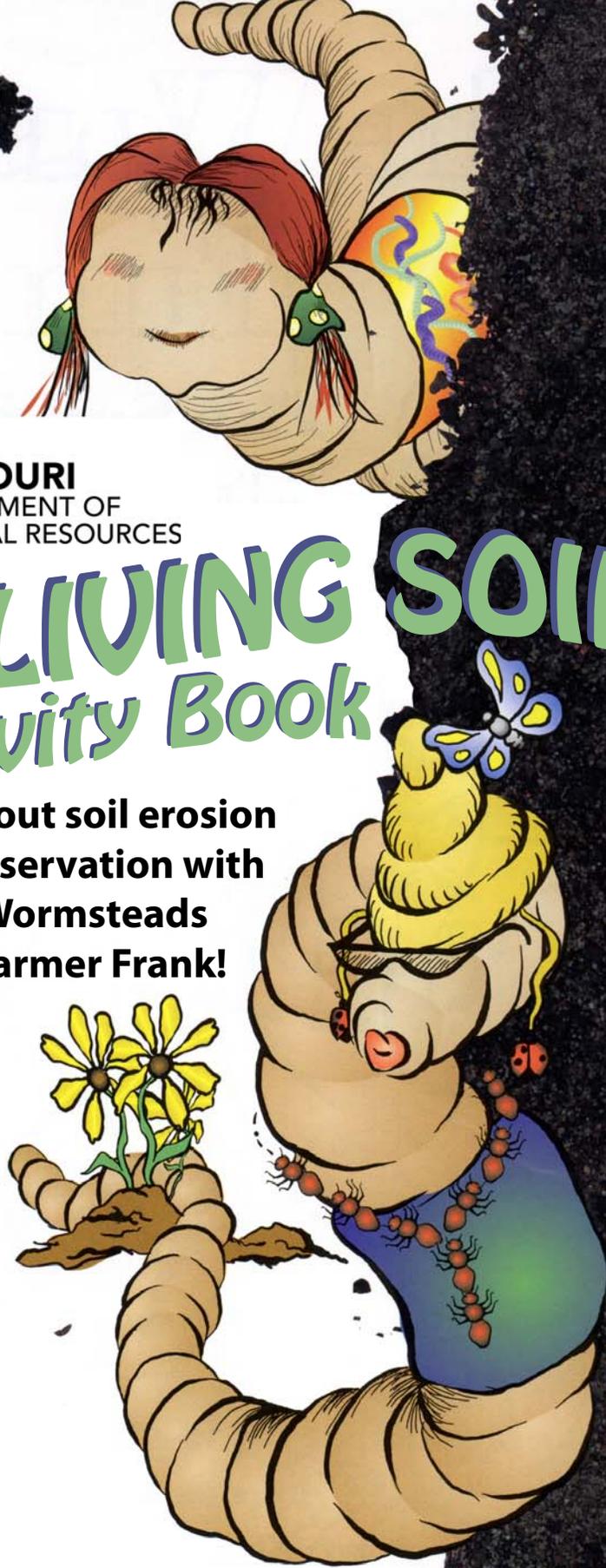




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DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES

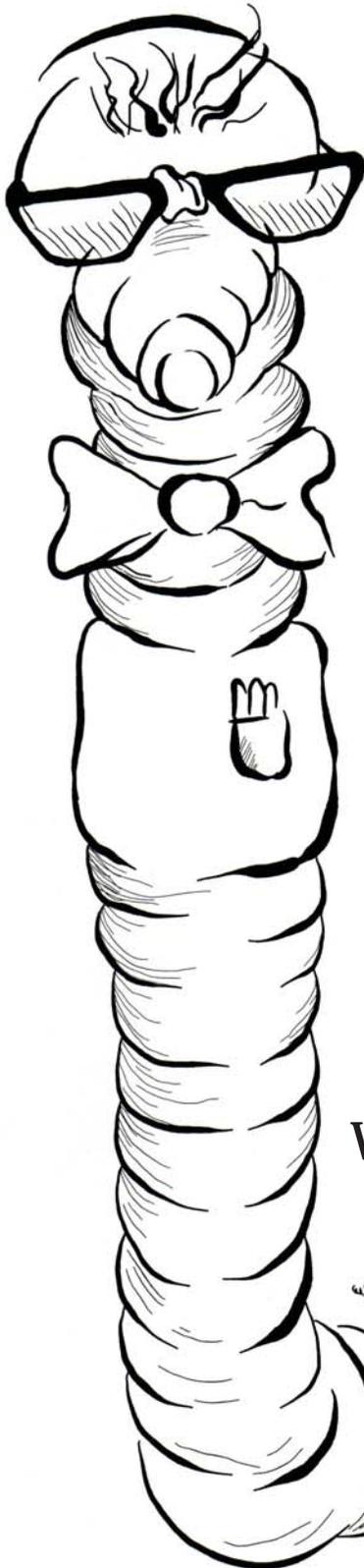
# THE LIVING SOIL Activity Book

Learn about soil erosion  
and conservation with  
The Wormsteads  
and Farmer Frank!





# THE WORMSTEAD FAMILY



**The soil is our home!**

Hi, I'm **Winston Wormstead!** All living things depend on the soil for food, so it's important we treat the soil right. Let us teach you about

## THE LIVING SOIL!



Wanda



Wiggly

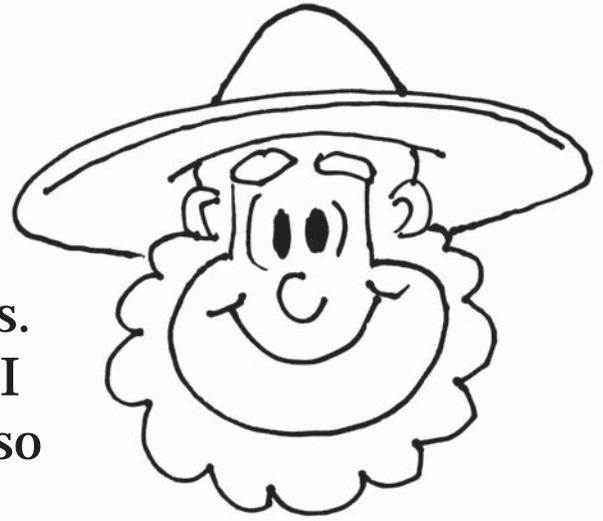


Wally

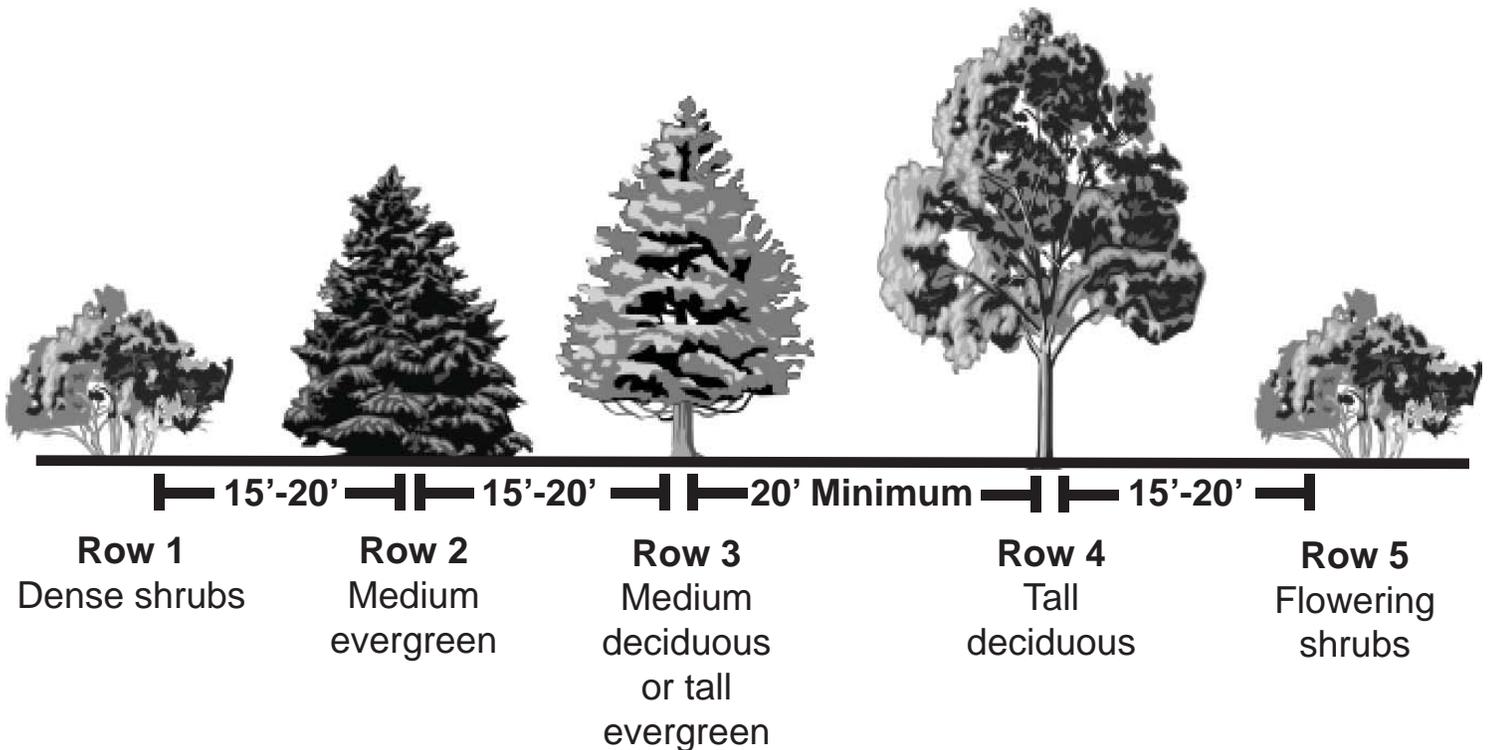
Hi, I'm

# Farmer Frank

I try to do my part to keep the soil safe and healthy for the Wormsteads. By implementing soil conservation, I make sure the soil stays in its place so I can grow my crops.



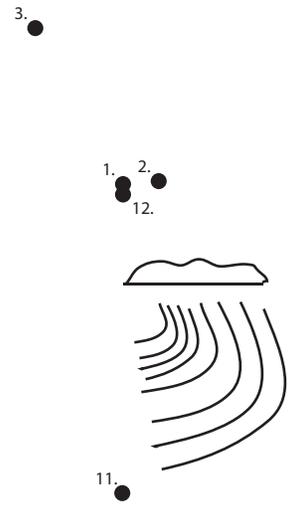
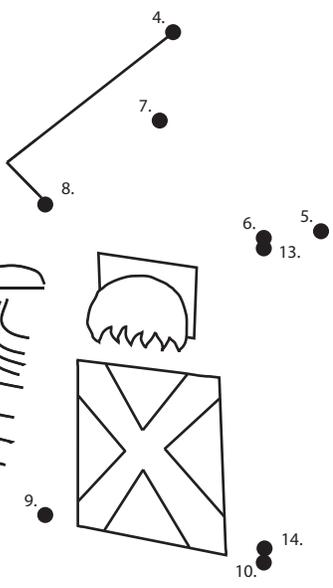
→  
Prevailing wind



I created a **windbreak** of bushes and trees that slow down the wind and prevent soil from blowing away.

# Farmer Frank

# Barn Connect the dots



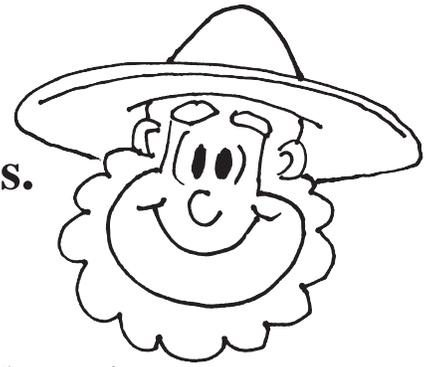
Hi, I'm

# WIGGLY

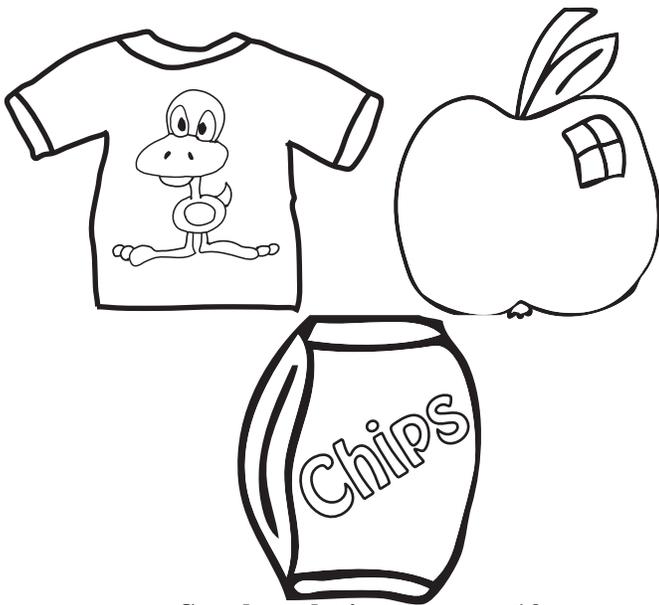
For my family and I, the soil is our **habitat**, our home. Above us lives Farmer Frank, who grows crops to feed the whole town. Soil is important to him and to us, so Farmer Frank uses **soil conservation** to reduce **erosion** and keep the soil healthy!



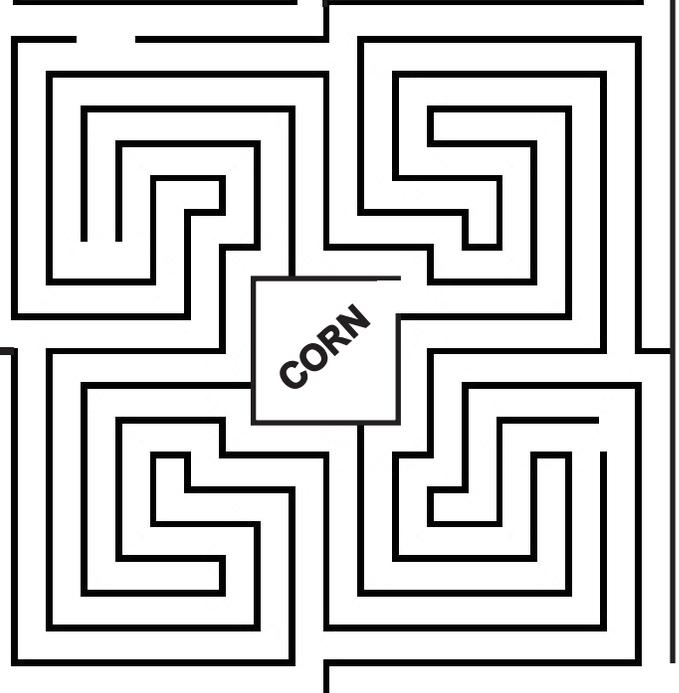
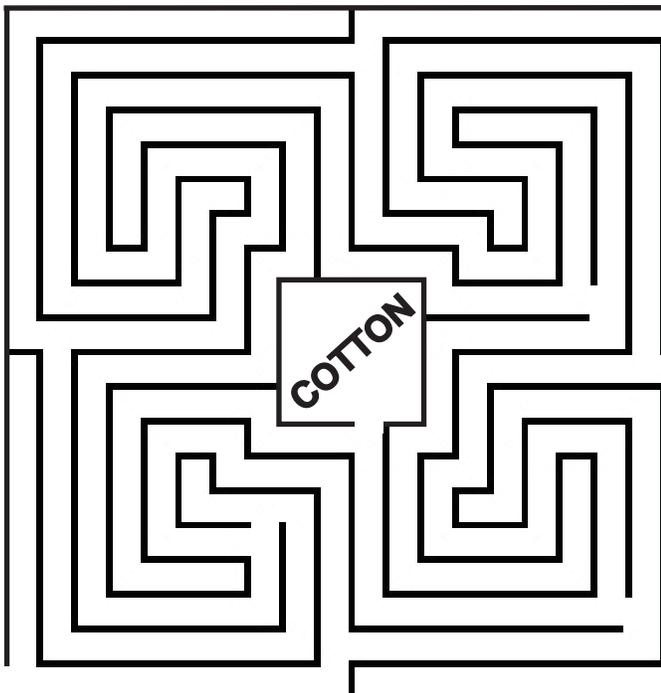
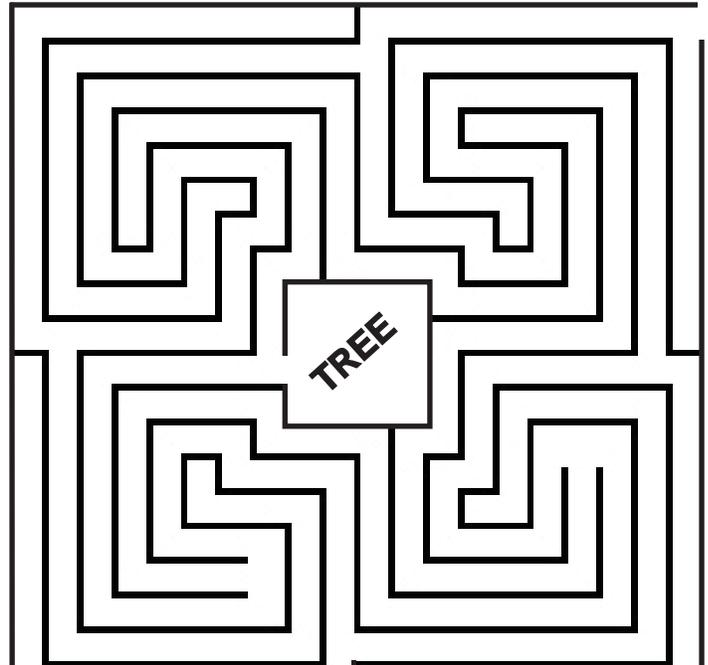
Soil is one of the most useful **natural resources**.  
From the soil you get food, clothes and even  
materials for the house you live in.



Draw a line to the soil source for the three items.



See the solution on page 12.



# Soil Horizons

Fill in the blanks:

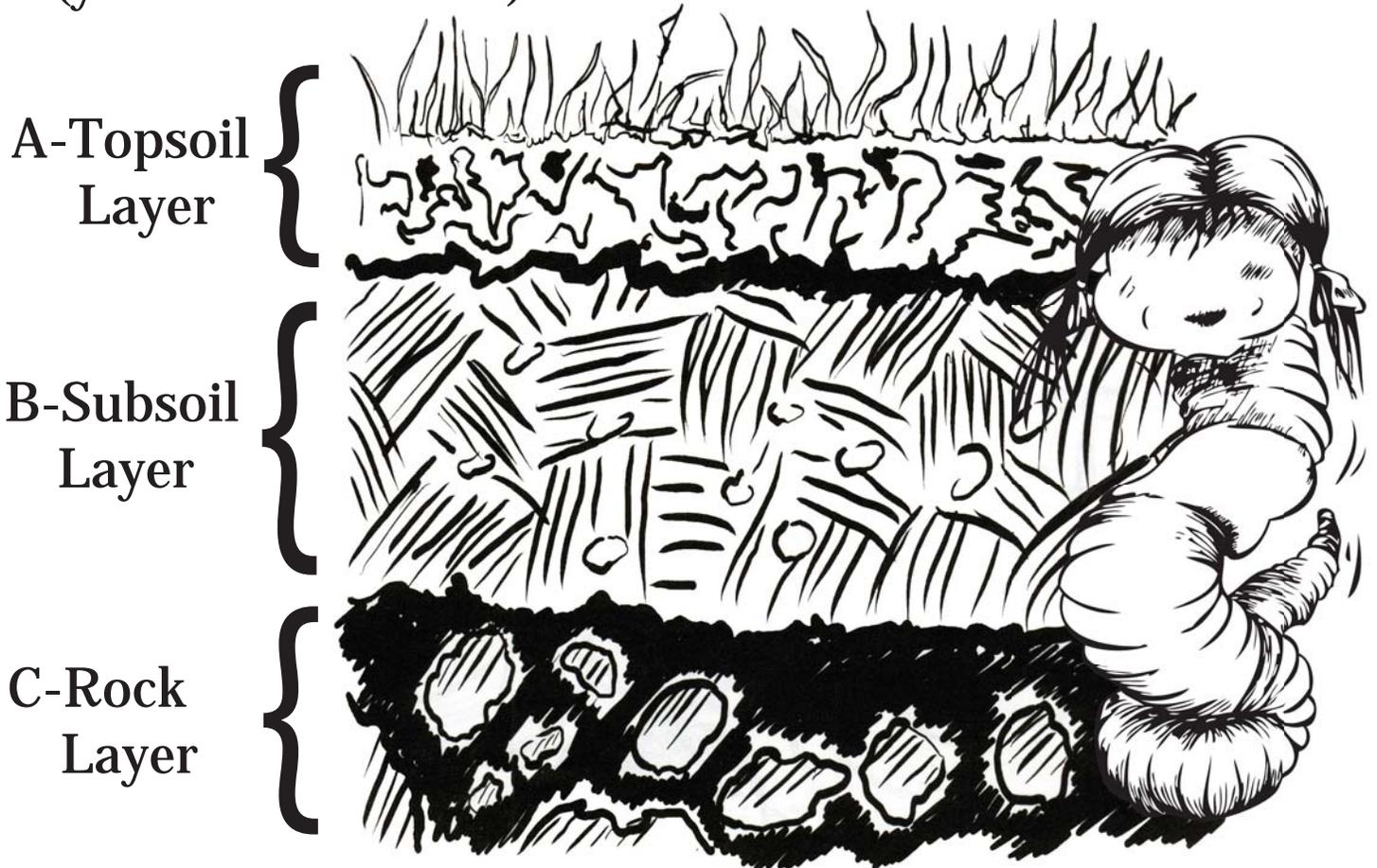
The soil is made up of 3 different layers, or horizons.

Farmer \_\_\_\_\_ grows \_\_\_\_\_ in  
(your name)

the A-Layer, the topsoil. The \_\_\_\_\_ crops are  
(adjective)

then sold in farmer's markets and grocery stores to

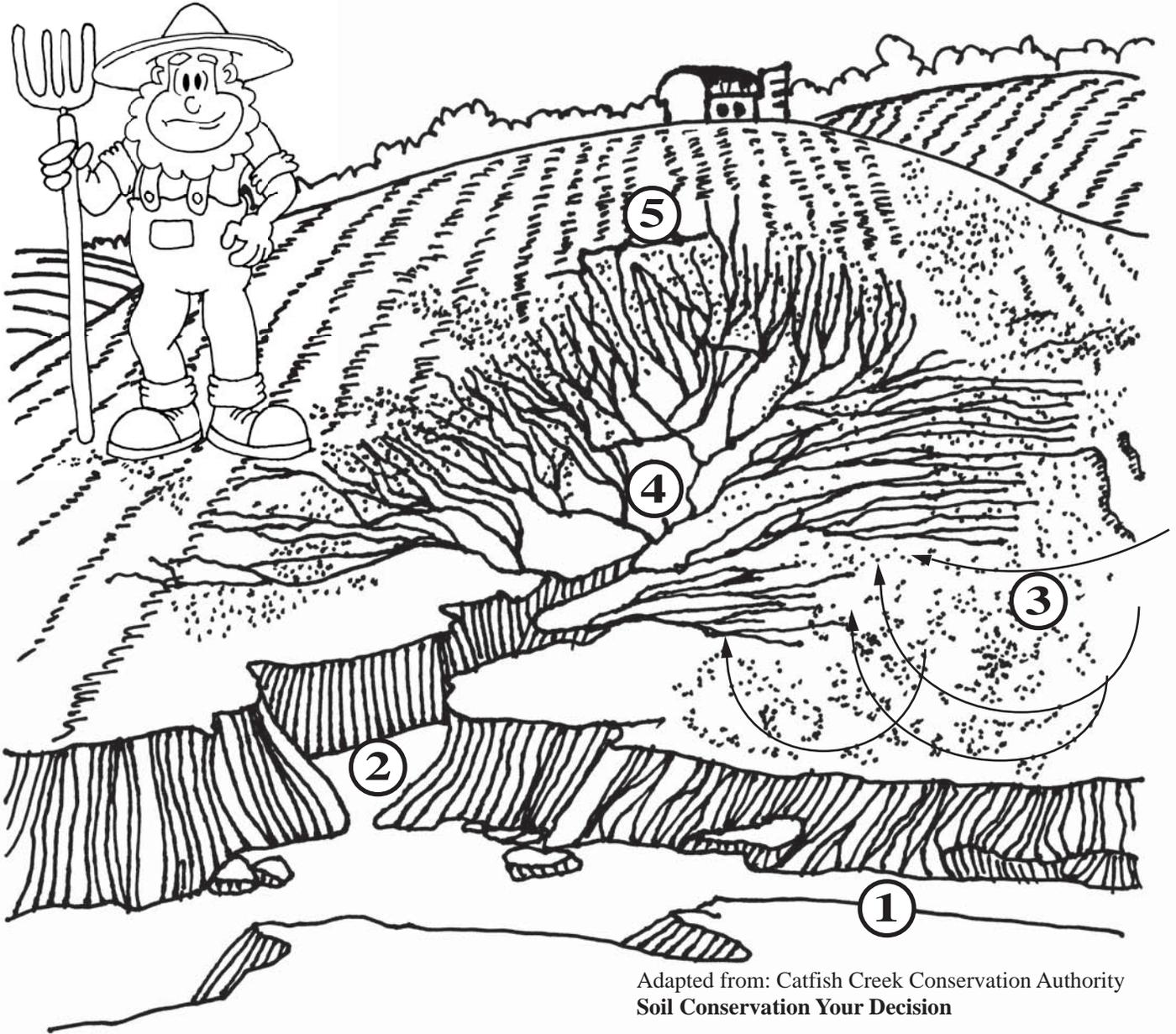
\_\_\_\_\_ who lives down the street.  
(your friend's name)





During storms, each splash from a raindrop hitting bare earth lifts up soil particles and carries them away. This is called **soil erosion**.

# Identifying Erosion



Soil erosion comes in different forms. Identify which area is:

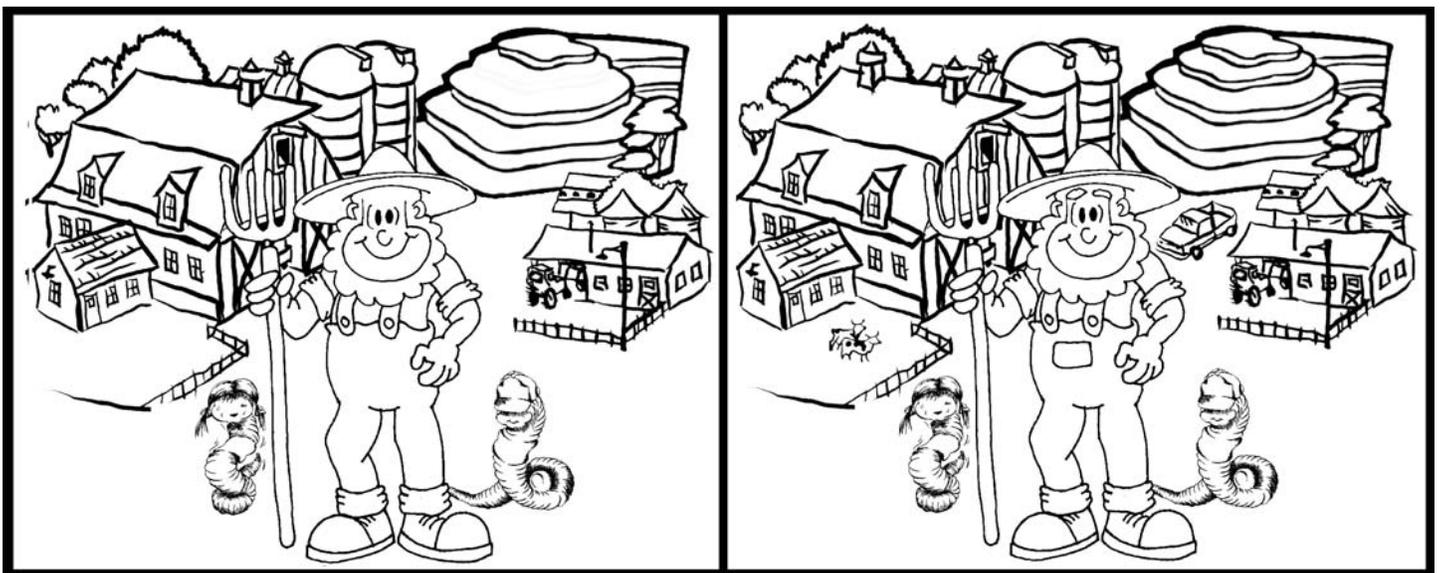
- wind erosion     gully erosion     rill erosion  
 sheet erosion     streambank erosion

Missouri landowners voluntarily install soil and water conservation practices through the state cost-share program. These practices conserve soil, which improves water quality by reducing sedimentation in rivers and streams.

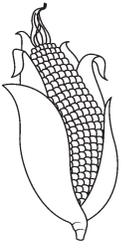
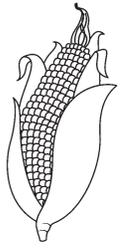


Farmer Frank creates **terraces** to reduce erosion. These are wide ridges that go around a hill and prevent water from rushing down the hill too fast.

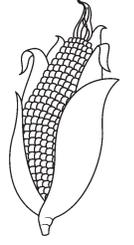
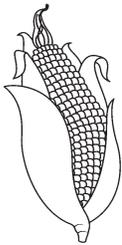
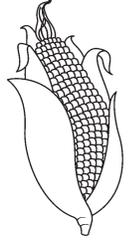
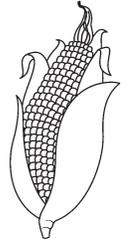
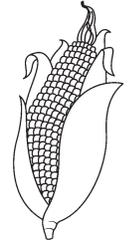
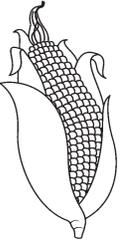
There are six items that are different in the two pictures of Frank's Farm. Can you find and circle the different items?



See the solution on page 12.



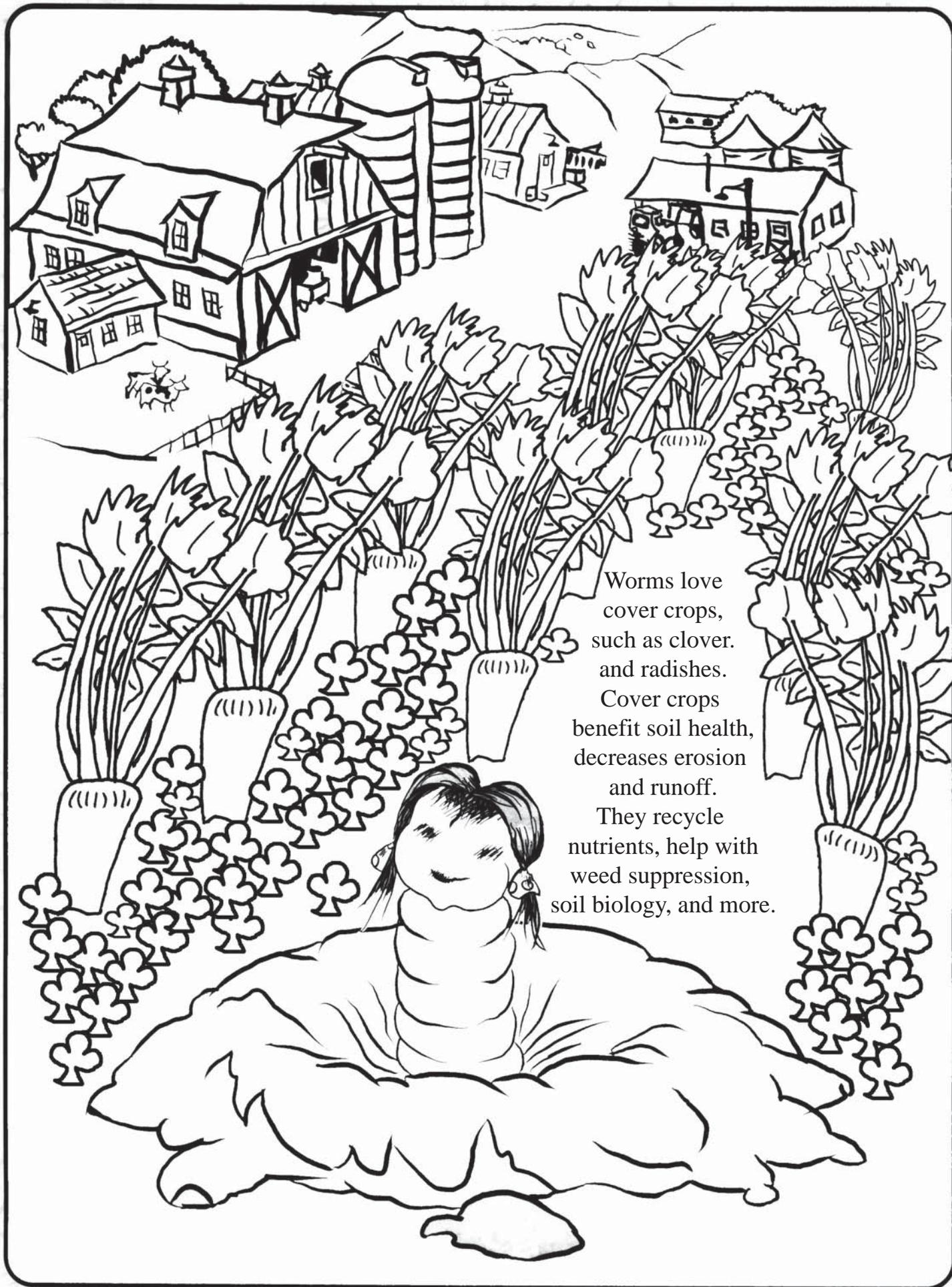
E W I L H E M E N A X I  
 B A S D A E T S M R O W  
 Z Z R Y C X C O R N U Z  
 S I L T L W K X A M R A  
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 C P L A N T S I T C P I  
 C O N S E R V A T I O N  
 F R Y L L A W I O R Q A  
 E A E G H T A S P N O U  
 W I R E U O F M S J F J  
 R N O V C P M F O O D G  
 O D S L L B F E I X O D  
 O R I G A G H B L Y N G  
 T O O U Y W I V Z A B F  
 S P N H D W I N S T O N  
 L K C O R D E B Z Y D E  
 C O N S T A N I M A L S



# Wordsearch

See the solution on page 12.

- |              |         |          |            |
|--------------|---------|----------|------------|
| Air          | Corn    | Home     | Silt       |
| Animals      | Earth   | Plants   | Topsoil    |
| Bedrock      | Erosion | Raindrop | Water      |
| Clay         | Farm    | Roots    | Winston    |
| Conservation | Food    | Sand     | Wormsteads |



Worms love cover crops, such as clover and radishes. Cover crops benefit soil health, decrease erosion and runoff. They recycle nutrients, help with weed suppression, soil biology, and more.



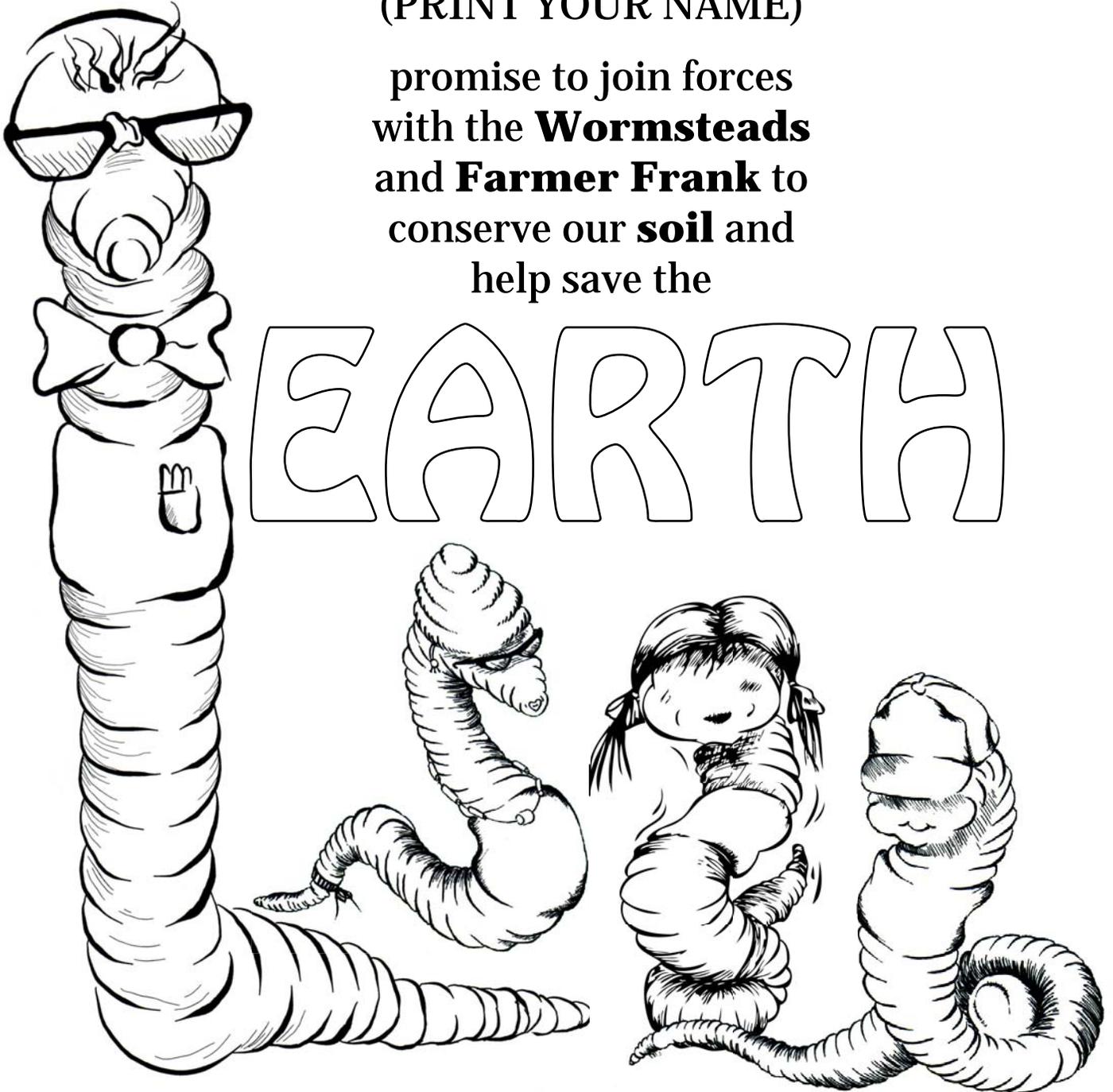
# PROTECT THE SOIL!

I, \_\_\_\_\_

(PRINT YOUR NAME)

promise to join forces  
with the **Wormsteads**  
and **Farmer Frank** to  
conserve our **soil** and  
help save the

# EARTH





# The Wormstead Family

reminds you that by conserving our soil  
you are helping to save the...



**MISSOURI**  
DEPARTMENT OF  
NATURAL RESOURCES

Soil and Water Conservation Program

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