SCIENCE FACT:
Soil is not just dirt but a rich source of life and nourishment for many organisms, including humans.

Fill in the blanks using the word bank

WORD BANK
HOME MUD SPONGE FLOOR
CRADLE DIRT EARTH FOOD GROUND

1. The _____________ that soaks up the rain.
2. A great big ______________, a natural drain,

3. The forest ______________, the __________ of roots.
4. The living ____________ beneath our boots.

5. The speck of _______________ that gets in our eye.
6. The _________________ in the child's pie.

7. ______________ for animals we rarely see.
8. Nutritious ______________ for a worm or a tree.

ANSWERS: 1. ground 2. sponge 3. floor, cradle 4. Earth
How is soil formed? Over many years, rock is broken down into tiny pieces. Plant and animals die. There decaying matter and waste called humus joins the broken up rock. Small spaces in the mixture are filled with water and air.

1. It adds moisture. __________
2. It cannot be seen, but it fills space. __________
3. It takes many years to break down. __________
4. It is from the remains of plants and animals. __________

Answers: 1. water 2. air 3. rock 4. humus