

plastic. Fill the shoe boxes with soil from five different areas. These areas can be:

- 1) a forest,
- 2) a compost pile,
- 3) a roadside,
- 4) a lawn, and
- 5) a garden.

Make sure that you have supervision when you are digging up soil from the roadside. And, be sure to get permission to dig the lawn soil. Carefully investigate the different soil samples. Do not injure any animals as you study them, and disturb them as little as possible. What kind of animals are living in each of the soil samples? How many animals are living in each of the soil samples? What do you think caused the numbers and types of animals to be different in each sample? Which soil sample has been altered the most by humans? Which one has been altered the least by humans? Are some human activities helpful to animals? Which ones?

Be sure to return the animals and the soil to their original environment!



Discovery FACTivity

The scientists in this study wanted to know about the forest habitat of the American marten. In this FACTivity, we are going to study different soil habitats. Get five shoe boxes and line them with