

HOLIDAY HOUSE 

# Welcome to **The Dirt Book** Activity Kit!



## What's included:

- Dirt dessert recipe!
- Design your own dirt-dweller!
- Dirt painting!
- What's below the dirt? coloring sheet!
- Name that bug!
- Write your own dirt poem!

## Meet the creators!



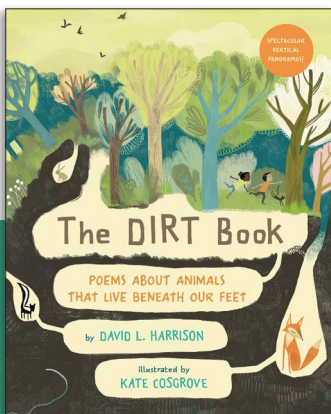
**David L. Harrison's** books have received state awards in Kansas, Missouri, Michigan, Arizona, South Dakota, Indiana, Texas, Kentucky, and Virginia. Awards also include IRA/CBC Children's Choices, NCTE Notable Poetry Books, and Bank Street College Best Books. The David Harrison Elementary School in Springfield, Missouri, is named in his honor. David lives in Springfield, Missouri.



**Kate Cosgrove** has received many awards and honors for her artwork, including a 2018 Highlights Foundation Scholarship. Kate's debut as a picture book illustrator was *And the Bullfrogs Sing*, also written by David L. Harrison at Holiday House. She lives in Lansing, Michigan.

### Still curious about **dirt**?

Check out the author's note in the back of the book for more information about dirt and all of its dwellers mentioned in the poems.



*The Dirt Book: Poems About Animals That Live Beneath Our Feet*  
by David L. Harrison  
pictures by Kate Cosgrove  
ISBN: 9780823438617

**Spectacular vertical panoramas!**

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# Dirt dessert recipe!

Half as messy and twice as yummy, use this recipe to make your own dirt dessert!

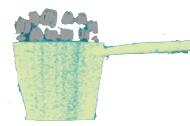
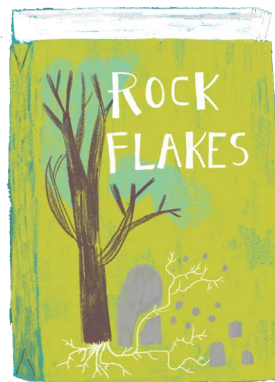
**Allergy alert:** Be sure to check ingredients before starting.

Always be sure to cook with adult supervision.



## TIME

- Prep Time: 5 minutes
- Chill Time: 5 minutes
- Decorating Time: 5 minutes
- Total Time: 15 minutes
- Yield: Makes 6 servings

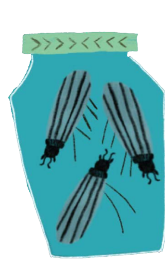
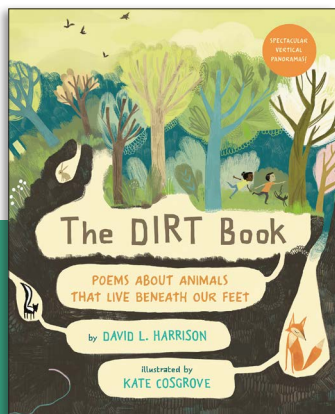


## INGREDIENTS

- 1 box JELL-O® Instant Chocolate Pudding & Pie Filling (5.9 oz.)
- 3 cups milk
- 8 OREO® Cookies
- Dirt creatures: gummy worms, candy rocks, or candy eggs—get creative!

## INSTRUCTIONS

1. Pour pudding mix into a large bowl.
2. Add 3 cups of cold milk. Beat with whisk for 2 minutes.
3. Chill in the refrigerator for 5 minutes.
4. While the pudding is chilling, place 8 OREO cookies into a plastic bag and smash them with a rolling pin, meat tenderizer, or your hands!
5. Separate pudding into bowls with desired portions.
6. Decorate your dirt! Add OREO cookie crumbs, gummy worms, and candy rocks.
7. Dig in! Leftovers should be refrigerated.



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# How to paint with dirt!

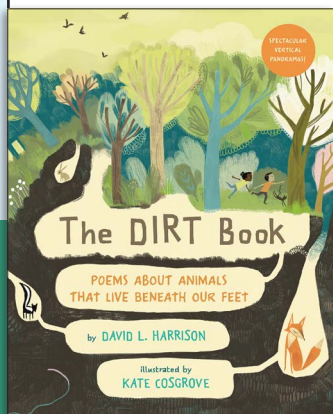
Time to get messy and make some mud. Add a small amount of water to a bowl of dirt. Use your fingers to create a masterpiece below!

**Mess alert:** Be sure to complete this activity in a mess-friendly location (backyard, garage, or kitchen). Aprons or old t-shirts might be helpful for more expressive artists. Keep towels and extra paper on hand.



Can you paint a . . .

Tree? Bumblebee? Leaf? Mouse?



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# Name that bug!

Draw a line from each bug's picture to its name.



## TRAPDOOR SPIDER



## ANT



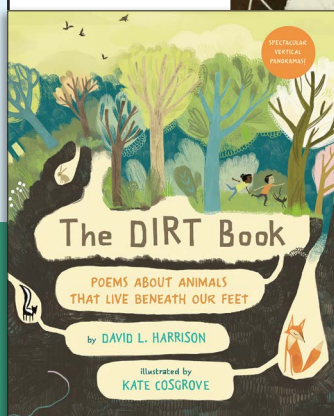
## DOODLEBUG



## GRUB



## EARTHWORM



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# Write your own dirt poem!

Think about something in nature that you like (or that you think is gross or even scary!).

Fill in the blanks to write a poem about it.



Poem name: Ode to \_\_\_\_\_  
(creature name)

Oh, \_\_\_\_\_, how you make me  
(creature name)  
feel \_\_\_\_\_  
(emotion)

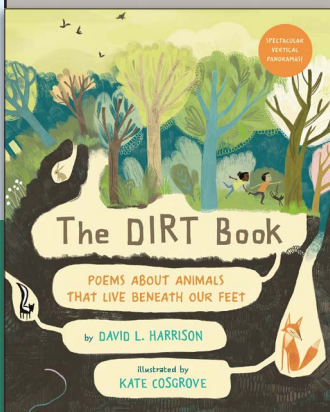
With your \_\_\_\_\_  
(noun)

so \_\_\_\_\_.  
(adjective)

You look so \_\_\_\_\_  
(adjective)

when you \_\_\_\_\_ over the ground  
(verb)

I wish that you were \_\_\_\_\_ around!  
(always/never)



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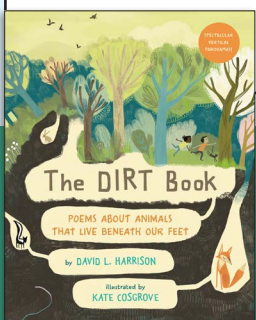
# Design your own dirt-dweller!

There are so many creatures that live in the dirt—some we haven't even discovered yet! If we could ride a magic elevator straight down into the world beneath our feet, what do you think we'd see?



Design your own **dirt** creature below!

My creature is called a \_\_\_\_\_. It likes to eat \_\_\_\_\_.



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# What's below the dirt? Coloring Activity

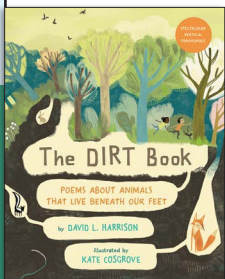
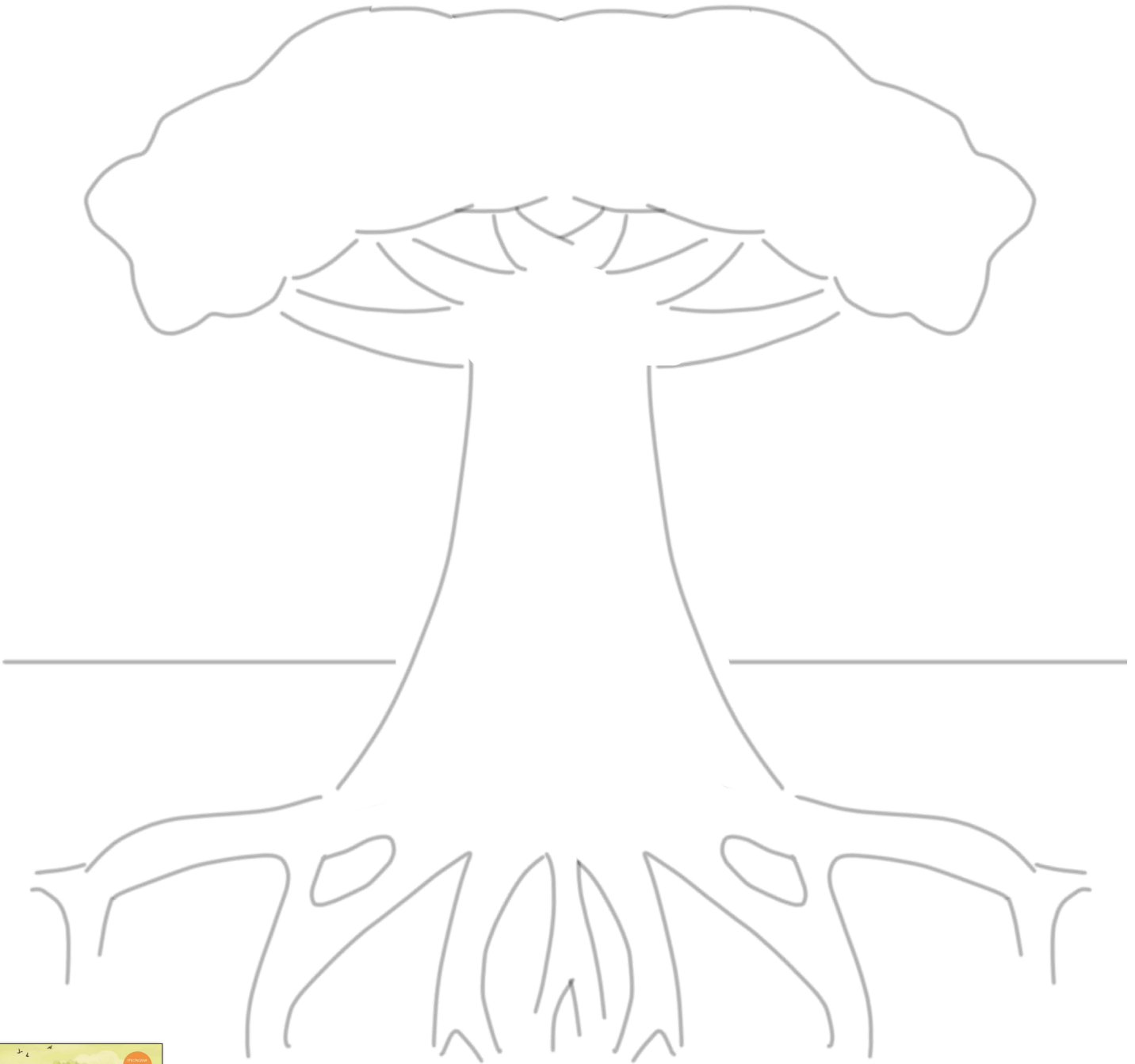
There is so much to be found above and below the dirt!



Imagine your backyard or a favorite park.

What's above the dirt? Is there a swing set, garden, or sandbox? Draw it above the line!

What's below the dirt? Are there fossils, bugs, or bunnies? Draw them below the line!



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