E-WEEK ACTIVITY DAY 1:
CORE SAMPLING WITH PLAY DOUGH & STRAWS

Activity discussion:

Depending on the age of the child, this activity can be an in-depth discussion or a simple game meant to look at the layers of the earth.

Refer to the pages included in the packet to discuss with your child how and why Engineers take soil samples.

Supplies:

- Multi colored play dough
- Plastic straws
- Plastic plate
- Paper and colored pencil

Instructions:

1. Establish color pattern for the layers of the earth
2. Have children layer playdough in the appropriate order
3. Put layered mass on plate and push straw through different points in the playdough, all the way through to the bottom.
4. Playdough may stick to inside of straw. Help your child squeeze out playdough layers and write up a summary on paper, identifying each layer.
Everything you see around you is supported by soil or rock.

Civil Geotechnical engineers are responsible for making sure the ground can support anything that gets built.

Anything that is not supported by soil or rock, either floats, flies, or falls down.

But how do they figure out what underneath the ground?
Soil Boring

Knowing what types of materials are underneath the ground is important.

But building with the right type of material is also important.
Let's play a game! Help Mr. Worm back up to the top, starting at the red dot. Can you name all the layers in soil? Write the names in the blank labels.

Can you help me get back home?
Soil Layers

Label and color the layers

1
2
3
4
5

Word Bank

Humus  Parent Material  Topsoil
Bedrock  Subsoil