



SOIL AS A HABITAT

THE UNDERGROUND LABYRINTH

Soil is a very complex habitat in its own right.

Soil organisms need a space for living.

Most organisms are found in the top 2-3 cm of soil to coincide with the highest concentrations of organic matter.



WHO LIVES WHERE?

Earthworms and mammals are able to burrow through the soil.

Fungi can form a mat of hyphae, which can extend for metres through the soil.

Bacteria tend to accumulate inside soil aggregates because they are less likely to be eaten by predators such as protozoa and mites.

Bacteria can be carried deep into the soil by percolating water.

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