

Ecosystems



What type of ecosystem is this?



Rainforest

What sort of organisms might you find living here?



Rainforest

What sort of organisms might you find living here?



What type of ecosystem is this?



DESERT

What sort of organisms
might you find living here?



DESERT

What sort of organisms
might you find living here?



What type of ecosystem is this?



WETLANDS

What sort of organisms
might you find living here?



WETLANDS

What sort of organisms
might you find living here?

**All these ecosystems are rich
in species.**

But

***there's another ecosystem that
can be even more diverse ...***

A close-up photograph of a mound of brown soil. The soil is dark brown and appears moist, with some clumping and visible roots extending from the top. Green leafy plants are growing along the left and top edges of the mound. The word "SOIL!" is written in large, white, italicized capital letters with a black outline, centered over the soil mound.

SOIL!



What sort of organisms might you find living here?



What sort of organisms might you find living here?



There's a lot more to soil than this,
you just need a closer look.



springtails

With the help of a microscope you can see...

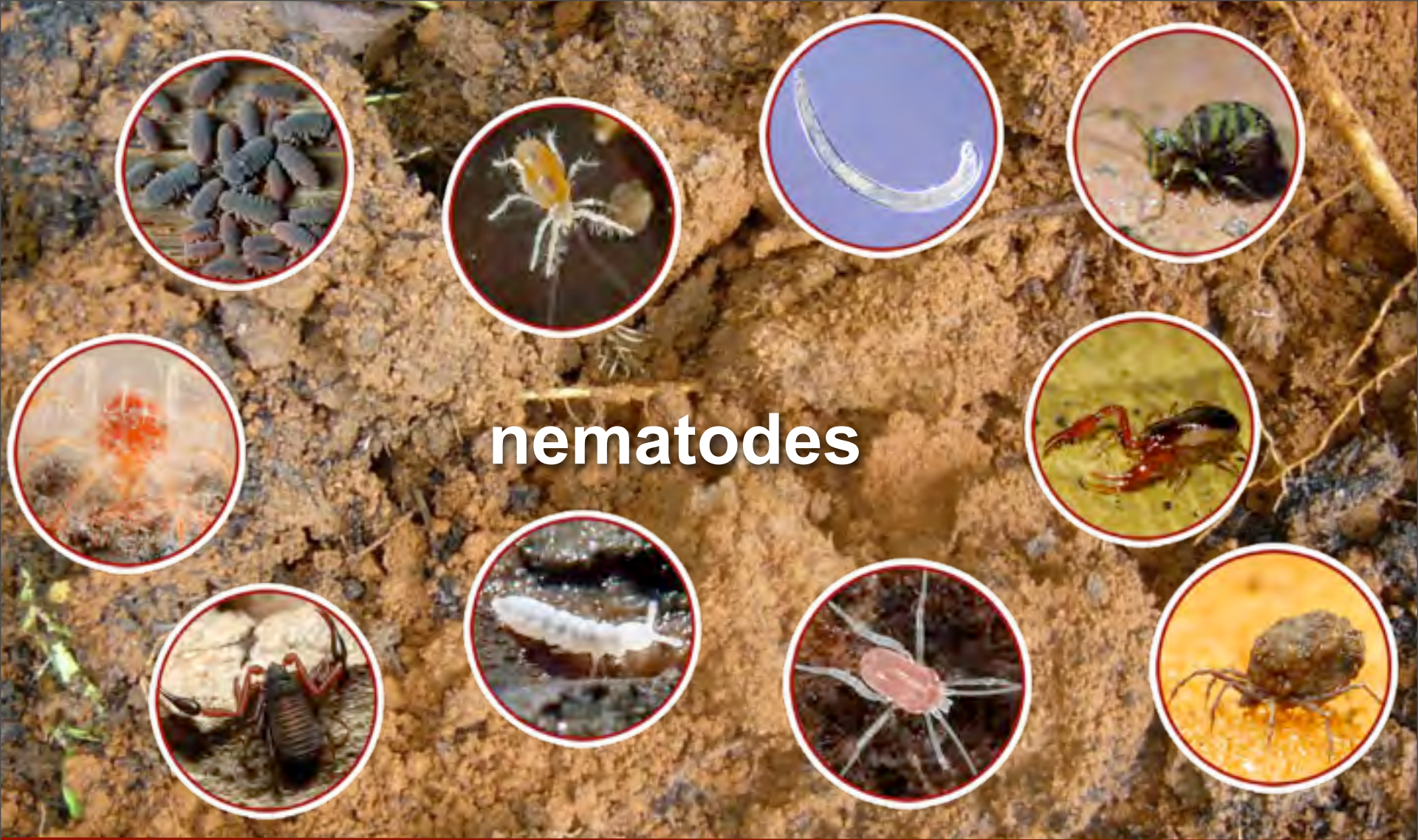


mites

With the help of a microscope you can see...

pseudoscorpions

With the help of a microscope you can see...



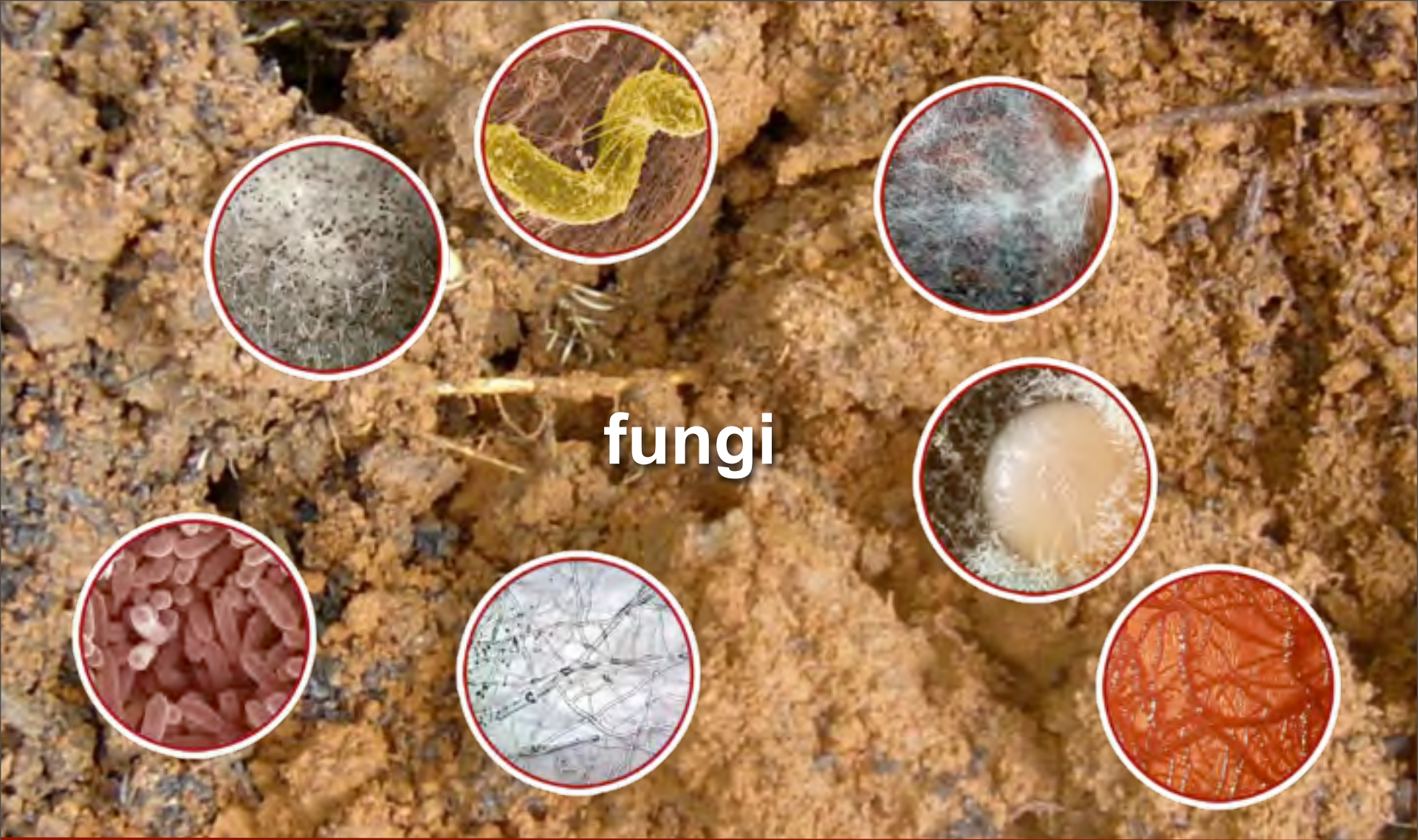
nematodes

With the help of a microscope you can see...

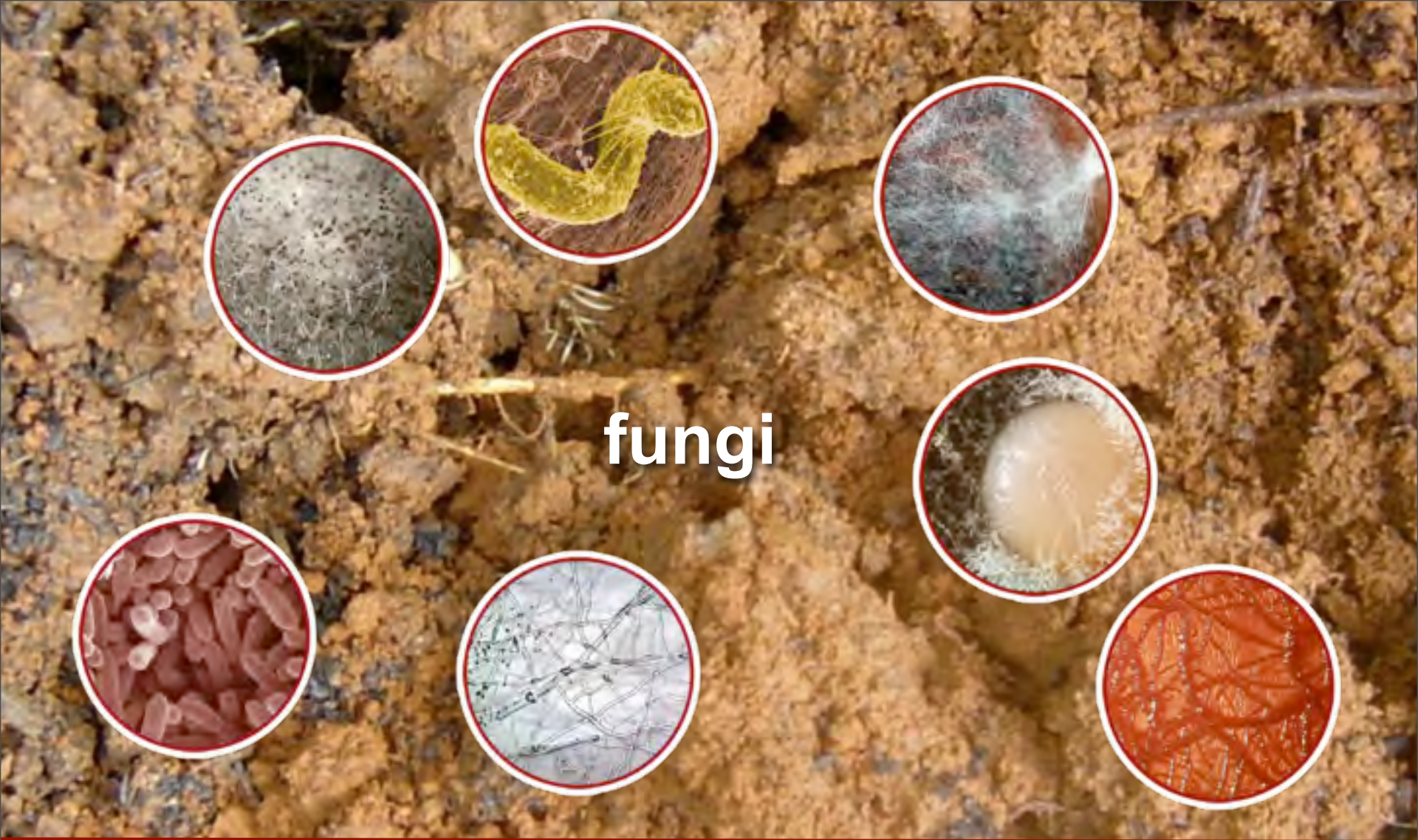


bacteria

If you could get even closer then you would see...



If you could get even closer then you would see...

The background is a close-up photograph of brown, crumbly soil. Seven circular insets, each with a red border, are arranged around the word 'fungi'. The insets show: 1) A grey, fuzzy mass of mold. 2) A bright yellow, branching, fuzzy growth. 3) A dark, almost black, fuzzy mass. 4) A light beige, fuzzy mass. 5) A dense cluster of reddish-brown, oval-shaped spores. 6) A network of thin, dark, thread-like hyphae. 7) A bright red, textured surface, possibly a fruiting body or a specific type of mold.

fungi

These are so tiny you'd find billions in every square metre of soil.

© 2011, The University of Western Australia

ast0713 | version 1.0

For conditions of use see spice.wa.edu.au/usage

Developed for the Department of Education, Western Australia



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA
Achieving International Excellence



Government of Western Australia
Department of Education