GRADE 5 RATIONALIZED AGRICULTURE AND NUTRITIONS LESSON NOTES

STRAND 1: CONSERVATION OF RESOURCES.

1.1-SOIL CONSERVATION.

- Soil is very important in agriculture because of the following:
- It provides a surface in which plants grow.
- It provides air.
- It also provides water.
- Soil provides the nutrients needed by the plants for their growth.

Therefore, loss of soil affects growth of plants and animals, which usually depend on plants.

How can Top soil be lost?

- When there is too much water on soil surface like when it is raining, some of the water is not absorbed by the soil since it has already absorbed much.
- The excess water then flows on the soil surface. This flowing water is called **runoff.**
- The runoff water usually carries the top soil when flowing. This process is called **soil erosion.**
- Soil erosion leads to the loss of important nutrients, which are in the soil.
- This makes the plants to grow poorly.



Surface run off after rain.

Soil Recovery.

- When runoff carry top soil that is fertile, the soil is deposited in areas where we cannot use it again such as in the rivers, forests and along the roads.
- Top soil should be taken care of by conserving it to prevent it from being carried away.