Grade 3 Understanding Earth and Space Systems –
Soils in the Environment

## **THIRSTY SOIL**

## Fletcher's Creek

If you have been to Mississauga, Ontario, you might have seen red warning signs that read "DANGER QUICKSAND DO NOT ENTER" along Fletcher's Creek. The risk of quicksand was discovered about 30 years ago when a worker noticed that the ground in the area was "soft" while he was performing some maintenance duties.

The risk of quicksand is not unique to Fletcher's Creek. Any place where sand and water come into contact has the risk of becoming quicksand. This is why it is important to always stay on designated trails and paths when hiking, especially when you are close to waterways. Also, be aware that the risk of quicksand is greater after heavy rain

because large amounts of water makes it more likely for quicksand to form.



If you ever get stuck in quicksand, do not panic. Try to lie on your back and slowly crawl out.