

Name _____

Date _____

Bedrock

- Unbroken solid rock **layers** in the earth.

Clay

- Soil texture that has the smallest soil particles - .002 mm or less

Clod

- A clump or mass of **earth**.

Compaction

- The process of soil particles being pressed together and removing the **air** between.

Erosion

- The wearing away to the surface of the earth by factors of **wind**, water, est.

Horizon

- A specific layer of soil in a **vertical** cross section of land.

Leaching

- The process of **dissolving** substances by water

Loamy Soil

- A rich soil containing an **equal** mixture of sand and silt and smaller amounts of clay.

Mineral Matter

- **Nonliving** organisms such as rocks that contain minerals.

Parent Material

- The mineral or organic material from which the true soil is made.

Percolation

- To cause something such as **liquid** to pass through small holes or pores.

Permeable

- Having pores or openings that permit liquids or gases to pass through.

pH

- A measure of the strength of **acid** or a base.
- The pH scale commonly in use ranges from 0 to 14, 7 being **neutral**.

Profile

- The order of soil **layers**.

Sand

- Fine rocks, consisting of small grains, often of **quartz**.

Sandy Soil

- A mixture of **sandy** grains mixed with soil particles.
- Water can travel more quickly through sandy soil because of sand's irregular shape allowing **space** between particles.

Silt

- Material in size between sand and clay usually deposited as a sediment.

Slope

- The natural or man-made feature in the earth where the ground has an **incline**; such as on a hill or mountain.

Soil Aggregates

- The formation of **dense** soil.

Soil Horizons

- A layer in the soil that has different **characteristics** from the layers surrounding.

Soil Ped

- A single piece or **unit** of soil

Subsoil

- The layer of earth below the **topsoil**.

Topsoil

- The up most part of the soil, usually the most **fertile**.

Texture

- The physical **quality** of the soil.
- Examples: rough, gritty

Topography

- The physical features of the land.