

Answer Key

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 soluble 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 an acid or a base.

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.

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

Sloap 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.

Topography The physical features of the land.