



Hands On Soil

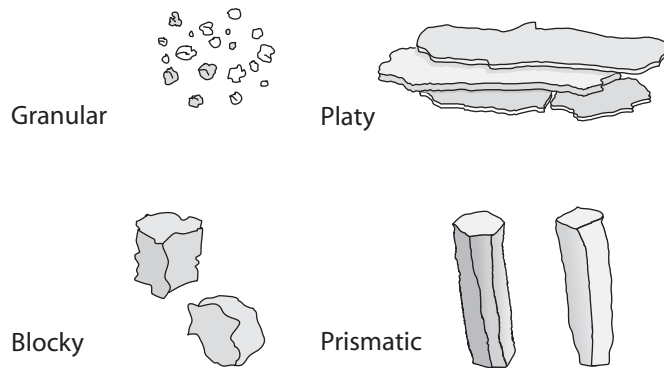


Essential Question: How do soil structures differ?

Overview

Soil type is a major variable that affects plant growth. In this activity, you will examine some different soils. Soils are made of three components: minerals of different sizes, organic materials from the remains of dead plants and animals, and pore space that can be filled with water and air.

Soil structure is the way soil particles are held together in what are called peds. Peds come in a variety of shapes, depending on the texture, composition, and environment.



Materials

- 6 sets of soil samples
- plastic spoon
- centimeter ruler
- magnifying glass
- weighing boats
- electronic mass scale
- white paper
- access to water

Safety

Follow standard safety rules and school safety rules for laboratory activities.