

Name: _____

Date: _____

COMPARING SOIL

There are many different kinds of rocks, plants, and animals on Earth. That means that there must be many different kinds of soil.

- Soil can be different colours.
- Some soil can be very dry.
- Soil, might crumble when you squeeze it in your hand.
- Some soil is sticky and holds together.

Equipment:

- Newspaper
- 3 different soil samples
- A magnifying lens
- Toothpicks

Procedure:

1. Cover your work area with newspaper.
2. Draw three large circles on the newspaper, label them "A", "B" and "C".
3. Put a scoop of the corresponding soil sample into the circles.
4. Use a magnifying lens to make observations of the samples, one at a time.
5. Record your observations in the table (Observations).
6. Answer the questions on the back of the page (Discussion).

Observations:

Sample	Colour	Texture	Smell	Other Observations
A _____				
B _____				
C _____				



Safety – You have just played with soil, it is now time to wash your hands.



Discussion:

1. In what ways were the soil samples the same?

2. In what ways were the soil samples different?

3. Which type of soil do you think is good for growing things?

4. Why do you think this type of soil would be good for growing things?

5. In the first paragraph on this worksheet it states that because there are many different types of rocks, plants and animals, there must be many different types of soil. Explain why this statement uses the word “must.”
