

Name: _____

Date: _____

SOIL TEST

1. Circle **True** or **False**:

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| a) Soil is made from rocks, water, air and sticks. | T | <input checked="" type="radio"/> F |
| b) Humus is decayed plant and animal matter. | <input checked="" type="radio"/> T | F |
| c) Different types of soil weigh different amounts. | <input checked="" type="radio"/> T | F |
| d) Water can separate types of soil. | <input checked="" type="radio"/> T | F |
| e) Drainage tells you how many nutrients are in the soil. | T | <input checked="" type="radio"/> F |
| f) Sand is good for growing seeds. | T | <input checked="" type="radio"/> F |
| g) Moles live underground because they can see in the dark. | T | <input checked="" type="radio"/> F |
| h) Worms eat soil and leave castings in the soil behind them. | <input checked="" type="radio"/> T | F |

2. Name 3 types of soil.

Sand, Silt Clay, Loam any 3 of the 4

3. Choose 1 type of soil and describe it in detail (please provide multiple pieces of information).

Sand - brown, gritty, large pieces, very good drainage, poor growing ability

Silt - very small pieces, poor drainage, blows away easily

Clay - red/brown, powdery/smooth, small, very poor drainage, poor growing

Loam - dark brown, soft, average drainage, very good growing ability.

4. Name 3 ways living things depend on soil.

Make their homes in it. Get food from it. Use it to store food. Use it for

protection. Stay warm in it. ...etc

_____ *..etc*

5. Describe 1 way living things depend on soil in detail.

Shelter - Animals dig tunnels and rooms in the soil, it helps protect them from other animals

Food - Soil grows plants, which is the source of food for many animals. They can also get nutrients directly from the soil. ..etc

6. How does soil depend on living things?

Soil needs air and water, animals allow it to get into the soil by digging in it.

When living things die they decompose in the soil, which puts nutrients in the soil.

...etc

7. Explain how our radish experiment was designed to be a fair test. What did we do to be sure each radish had the same chance to grow?

We followed the same procedure for each of the three soils. We added the same amount of water. We put them in the same sunlight. We put 3 seeds in each cup. We did multiple samples of each and looked at the average growth. We let them grow for the same amount of time.

...etc

8. How do your kitchen scraps become compost?

You put kitchen scraps in the green bin. The green bins are collected and put in a big pile instead of the dump. Bacteria and other organisms like worms break down the food scraps. This is called decomposition. When the scraps are broken down they are humus and can be added to soil.

...etc

SOIL



- | | | |
|-------|----------|--------|
| Soil | Silt | Marmot |
| Air | Sand | Ant |
| Rock | Drainage | Plants |
| Humus | Worm | Roots |
| Clay | Mole | Radish |