

## LESSON 2: Soils

### Exploration: Soil Samples

#### Sample A

Reach your hand into the first sample and touch the soil. Hold it in your hand. How does it feel? *Write two words that describe how the soil feels to you:*

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#### Sample B

Reach your hand into the second sample and touch the soil. Hold it in your hand. How does it feel? *Write two words that describe how the soil feels to you:*

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#### Sample C

Reach your hand into the third sample and touch the soil. Hold it in your hand. How does it feel? *Write two words that describe how the soil feels to you:*

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## Experiment: Soil Lab

1. Make an educated guess: **Which soil type will water flow through fastest?** *Circle your guess:*

Sand                  Silt                  Clay

2. **Observe the soil lab and fill in this table:**

	amount of water added (ml)	amount of water that flowed through (ml)	amount of water remaining (ml)
Sand			
Silt			
Clay			

3. **Which soil type did the water flow through fastest?** *Circle one:*

Sand                  Silt                  Clay

4. **Why do you think the water flowed through this soil type the fastest?**
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### Vocabulary:

*Soil Particle* The smallest piece of sand, silt, or clay.

*Sand* This type of soil feels rough. It has a larger particle size.

*Silt* This type of soil feels smooth and soft. It has a medium particle size.

*Clay* This type of soil feels sticky or slick. It has a smaller particle size.

*Soil* The loose material that covers much of Earth's surface.

Soil is a combination of sand, silt, and clay.

## Learning Activity: Graphing Exercise

Use a piece of graph paper to make a graph that **shows the amount of water that flowed through the 3 different soil types**. Your EcoTeam teacher will show you how!