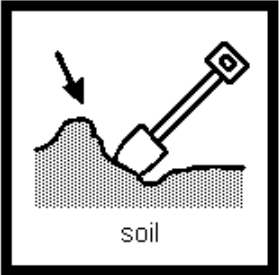


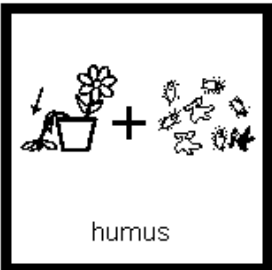

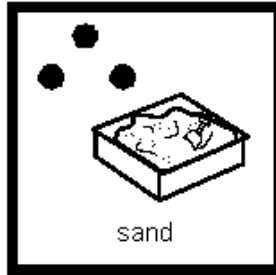


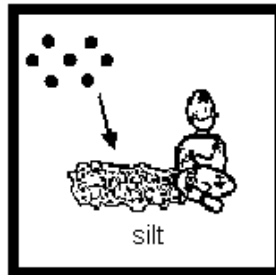
<h1>Soil</h1>	 <p>The diagram shows a shovel digging into a mound of soil. An arrow points down towards the soil. The word 'soil' is written below the mound.</p>	<p>The layer of loose material, consisting of particles of rocks, minerals and organic matter, covering most of Earth's crust.</p>
<h1>Soil Components</h1>	 <p>The diagram shows various soil components: rocks, sand, silt, clay, and organic matter (like a worm and leaves). The word 'soil components' is written below the components.</p>	<p>Matter that makes up soil: rock, sand, silt, clay, organic matter and humus.</p>
<h1>Organic Matter</h1>	 <p>The diagram shows organic matter: a flower, a leaf, and an insect wing. The word 'organic matter' is written below the items.</p>	<p>The remains of things that were once alive: insect wing, leaf, wood.</p>
<h1>Humus</h1>	 <p>The diagram shows humus as decomposed organic matter, represented by a flower, a leaf, and an insect wing with a plus sign between them. The word 'humus' is written below the items.</p>	<p>Organic matter that has been broken down (decomposed) by bacteria and fungi.</p>
<h1>Rock</h1>	 <p>The diagram shows a rock with some grass growing on it. The word 'rock' is written below the rock.</p>	<p>A solid substance made of one or more minerals that make up the Earth's crust. Larger than Sand.</p>

Sand



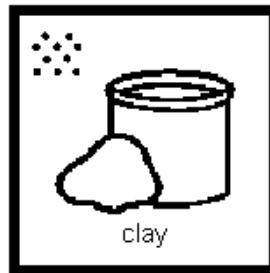
Loose, tiny grains
of crushed or worn
rock.
Smaller than Rock.
Larger than Silt.

Silt



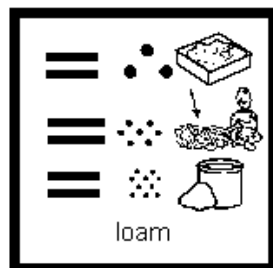
Small, fine, smooth
mineral particles.
Smaller than Sand.
Larger than Clay.

Clay



Small, fine, smooth
mineral particles.
Smaller than Silt.

Loam



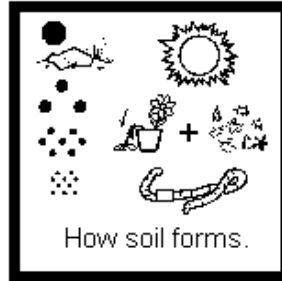
Soil with equal
amounts of sand,
silt and clay.
Sometimes it has
lots of humus.

Pedologist



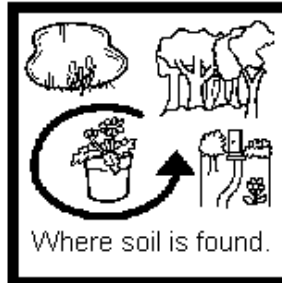
One who studies
soils.

How soil forms:



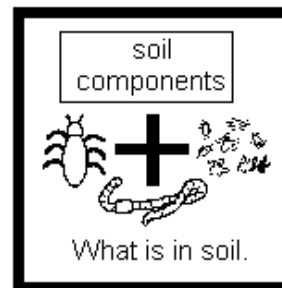
- Rock is worn down
- Organic matter decomposes to humus
- Bacteria decomposes organic matter
- Bacteria/sun provide heat
- Worms make air holes

Where soil is found:



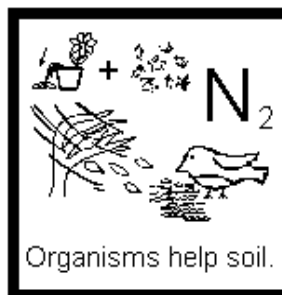
- everywhere plants are
- swamps
- forests
- gardens
- etc.

What is in soil:



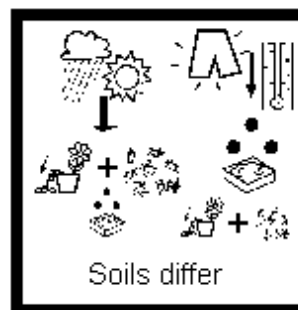
- rock, sand, silt, clay
- organic matter, humus
- bugs
- worms
- bacteria
- (plants and animals)

How organisms help soil:



- breakdown organic matter into humus
- add nutrients
- add air
- spread seeds

Soils differ because of:



- climate
- warm, wet places
 - more plants
 - organic matter/humus
- cold, dry places
 - fewer plants
 - more rock and sand