

SOIL VOCABULARY



AGRONOMIST	a professional who studies soil and crop management
CONSERVATION	protection of natural resources
EROSION	the process by which the surface of earth is worn away by the action of water, glaciers, wind, waves, etc.
ORGANIC MATTER	matter composed of organic compounds that have come from the remains of organisms such as plants and animals
LOESS	a type of 'loose' soil made of mostly silt made from wind and glaciers that drains well and is rich in nutrients
MICROORGANISMS	things like bacteria, fungi, worms, and insects that live in soil
PARTICLES	tiny bits of rock that are broken down by wind, temperature changes, water, and movement over hundreds of years
SOIL FERTILITY	when soil has all the major nutrients, like nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium, that plants need to be healthy and grow
SUSPENSION	when particles from a solid material are mixed with a liquid but do not dissolve and instead are dispersed throughout the liquid
WEATHERING	natural process that slowly breaks apart or changes rock



Knowing the proper words and their definitions allows us to communicate more clearly about a topic! Use these vocabulary terms when discussing this topic.