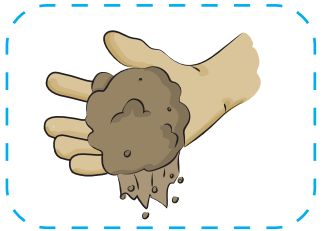
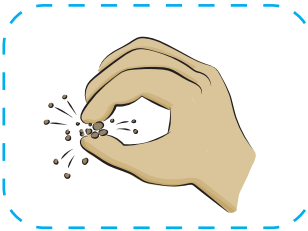


Describe your soil's consistency

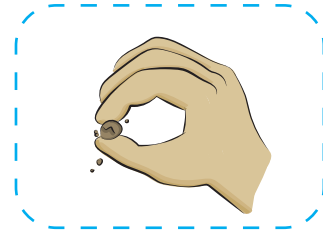
Water moves through loose soil easily. It can be difficult for water to move through hard, dry soil. Pinch your soil to see if it is loose or firm.



Loose: Unbroken soil can be easily dug with your fingers.



Medium firmness: Can be broken apart with effort.



Firm: Soil is difficult to dig in. Soil chunks are hard.

Describe the consistency of your soil sample.

Describe your soil's color and moistness

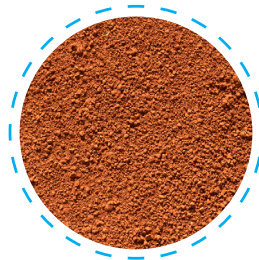
Soil with lots of organic (living) material in it is often black in color and feels light. Dark brown soils often have some organic material. Dry soils are often lighter in color. Red soil is iron rich. Which photo is most similar to your soil sample?



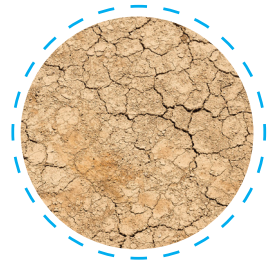
Black: Lots of organic material



Brown: Some organic material and moisture



Red: Contains iron



Tan/gray: Dryer soil

Describe the color of your soil. Describe how moist your soil sample is.

How much water can your dirt sample hold?

Dirt is made up of small particles such as gravel, sand, and clay. These particles have small spaces between them that fill with water. Sand and gravel allow water to easily drain from the soil and can be a great place for groundwater to collect. Small clay particles do not drain easily.

What you'll do:

Measure how much water your dirt sample can hold as groundwater.



1. Fill your cup with dirt as you measure the volume of the dirt using Tedros test tube.



2. Fill your test tube to 50 ml. Use this measurement to calculate how much water fits in your dirt.



3. Drip water into your dirt-filled cup to determine how much groundwater it can hold.

How much dirt fits in your cup?

How much water fits in your dirt?

Do you think your soil would make an effective place for groundwater? Why or why not?
