

Name _____

Date _____

Soil, Rocks, and Organic Matter Reading Comprehension

Instructions: Read the passage below and fill in the blanks with the correct words from the words bank.

Soil is an important natural resource and a part of the Earth. It is made up of tiny pieces of rocks, minerals, and organic matter. Rocks, such as granite, are broken down into smaller pieces through weathering, wind, and water. These small pieces of rock mix with minerals found in the soil. Organic matter comes from dead plants and animals. This organic material is very important because it provides nutrients that help plants grow strong and healthy. Together, rocks, minerals, and organic matter create the soil that supports life on Earth.



1. What is soil made of?
2. How are rocks broken down into smaller pieces?
3. Give one example of a type of rock mentioned in the passage.

4. Where does organic matter come from?
5. Why is organic matter important for plants?



6. What does organic matter provide to plants?
7. Which three main things make up soil?

8. Why is soil called a natural resource?



9. How do minerals become part of the soil?
10. How do rocks, minerals, and organic matter work together to make soil useful for life on Earth?



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Soil is an important natural resource and a part of the Earth. It is made up of tiny pieces of rocks, minerals, and organic matter. Rocks, such as granite, are broken down into smaller pieces through weathering, wind, and water. These small pieces of rock mix with minerals found in the soil. Organic matter comes from dead plants and animals. This organic material is very important because it provides nutrients that help plants grow strong and healthy. Together, rocks, minerals, and organic matter create the soil that supports life on Earth.

1. What is soil made of? **Tiny pieces of rocks, minerals, and organic matter.**
2. How are rocks broken down into smaller pieces? **Through weathering, wind, and water**
3. Give one example of a type of rock mentioned in the passage. **Granite**
4. Where does organic matter come from? **From dead plants and animals**
5. Why is organic matter important for plants? **It provides nutrients that help plants grow strong and healthy**
6. What does organic matter provide to plants? **Nutrients**
7. Which three main things make up soil? **Rocks, minerals, and organic matter**
8. Why is soil called a natural resource? **It is a part of the Earth and supports life by helping plants grow.**
9. How do minerals become part of the soil? **Minerals are found in rocks, and when rocks break down into smaller pieces, the minerals mix into the soil.**
10. How do rocks, minerals, and organic matter work together to make soil useful for life on Earth? **Rocks and minerals provide the structure of soil, while organic matter adds nutrients**

