



O – layer of organic material on top of soil (dead leaves etc)

A -- topsoil minerals and more organic material than B or C,

B – subsoil Some organic material

C – parent material eroded bedrock, almost no organic material

R -- is just rock (called bedrock)

PROBLEM: How can you determine the different soil layers.

PREDICTION:

PROCEDURE:

LAB 1. DENSITY OF SOIL TYPES

- add 2 ml of **sand** to a beaker of water and stir gently. Observe whether it sinks or floats or sinks and floats
- next add 2 ml of compost and stir gently. Observe whether it sinks, floats or both.
- Lastly add 2 ml of topsoil and stir gently. Observe whether it sinks or floats or both.

Sand added to water _____

Compost added to water _____

Topsoil added to water _____

LAB 2. CHARACTERICS OF SOIL LAYERS. Look at different soil samples from different soil layers. Use your hand lens. Describe the soils by color and how much organic material you see and try to figure out what soil layer it comes from.

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SOIL	DESCRIBE CHARACTERISTICS	HORIZON

LAB 3: MAGNETIC ROCK AS PARENT ROCK

Run a wand magnet over the bags of soil. Are any of the soils magnetic? -

If so, which one(s): _____

What does that tell you about the parent rocks of these samples?