

Name: _____

Science Chapter 8 Study Guide
Soil, Rocks, and Minerals

Test Date: **Thursday, May 9, 2024**

Words to Know

1. Soil: the loose rock and bits of decaying plant and animal material
 - a. Soil is made up of rock, humus, air, and water
2. Humus: the remains of living things that have died and decayed
3. Decay: to break apart or rot
4. Weathering: the breaking down of rocks into smaller pieces
5. Rock: a hard piece of the earth's surface
 - a. Rocks have more than one mineral in them
6. Volcano: an opening in the earth that allows melted rock to come to the surface
7. Fossil: any remaining part of a living thing that died long ago
8. Mineral: a solid material in nature that was never alive

Key Ideas

1. The three layers of soil: topsoil, subsoil, bedrock
 - a. Topsoil - soil layer where plants grow
 - i. Contains the most humus
 - b. Subsoil - soil layer that has larger pieces of rock
 - i. Contains no humus
 - c. Bedrock - soil layer with large, unbroken rock that lies under the subsoil
 - i. Contains no humus
2. Rocks are classified by how they are formed.
3. Three types of rocks: igneous, sedimentary, and metamorphic
 - a. Igneous - forms when melted rock cools

- b. Sedimentary - forms when layers of sediment are pressed together and harden
 - c. Metamorphic - forms when other rocks are changed by great heat and pressure
4. One result of the Flood that we can see is worn away soil and rocks.
 5. Knowing the characteristics of minerals is helpful for using them in tools and other things.
 6. God designed the surface of the earth so that it changes.
 7. Fossils support the worldwide Flood.
 8. Characteristics of minerals: hardness, color, crystal shape, streak
 9. Four things that can weather rocks: water, wind, ice, plants

Write About It

A farmer plants crops in an area that was once covered with trees. He expects crops to grow well in this area.

Write a paragraph explaining why the farmer thinks the soil is good for growing crops.
