



**Soil** consists of weathered rock, mineral material, water, air, and organic matter from the remains of organisms.

Soil formation begins when physical and chemical weathering break down rocks.

**Drag the soil formation steps to the correct order:**



1

Weathering processes fracture and break down rock. Soil formation can take hundreds or thousands of years.



2

Over time, plants and other organisms in the soil die and decompose. The upper part of the soil contains nutrient-rich organic material



3

Plants, bacteria, and burrowing organisms help break down rock.



4

The upper part of the soil contains more organic material than the lower part. The lower part of the soil also can contain weathered rock.