

What are soil?

Composition of Earth's Soil

Living thing - Clay - Silt - Water - Air - Sand - Minerals - Organic Matter



Coarse, gritty particles;
drains water quickly



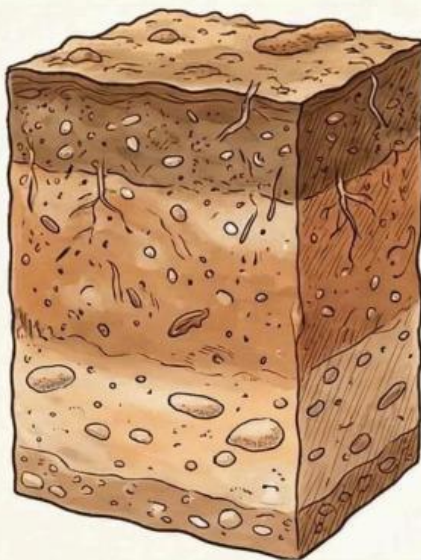
Fine, smooth particles;
holds moderate moisture



Fills spaces between
particles; essential for life



Dead plants and animals;
adds nutrients



Tiny, dense particles;
holds water very well



Solid, nonliving substances
found in nature



Pockets of gas between
particles; roots need



Bacteria, fungi, worms;
decompose matter