

Name:

Date:

## Student Lesson: Comparing the Characteristics of Clay, Humus and Sand

### Problem:

Once you have chosen your Rain Garden site you will need to decide what kind of soils are found at the site.

This lesson will help you identify three types of soils: Sand, Humus and Clay.

### Question:

What is the difference between clay and humus and sand?

### Hypothesis:

If you carefully observe three types of soils then you will notice unique qualities of each.

### Materials per person:

1 newspaper

1 small sample of each type of soil: clay, sand/gravel, humus

### Procedure:

1. Spread 1 sheet of newspaper on the desk
2. Place one spoonful of each type of soil on the newspaper
3. Observe and record the following characteristics about each soil sample: color, texture, size of particles, smell and ability to hold together in a ball when squeezed.

Continue...

*Data Sheet*

	<i>Clay</i>	<i>Humus</i>	<i>Sand</i>
<i>Color</i>			
<i>Feel</i>			
<i>Particle size</i>			
<i>Smell</i>			
<i>Ability to hold together in a ball</i>			

Analysis:

Using whole sentences, write a description of each of soil.

Conclusion:

Write a sentence stating how the three soils differ from each other.