

How does soil type affect the movement of - Glencoe

http://www.glencoe.com/sites/common_assets/science/virtual_labs/CT02/CT02.html

In this Virtual **Lab**, you will investigate how different types of **soil** hold water. Describe how a **soil's porosity** and permeability affect the movement of water.

1. What determines the texture of soil?
2. What is meant by the permeability of a soil? What is porosity and how is it related to permeability?
3. Based on your experiment, which type of soil is the most permeable? Which is the least permeable? How do you know?
4. Explain why surface runoff, or rain not absorbed by the soil, occurs much more often with soils containing high clay content.
5. Soil type and texture are very important to farmers. Too little water may cause plants to wilt and die. Too much rain in the soil, can disrupts a plant's ability to take in oxygen. Based on your results, what type of soil is best for agriculture? Explain your answer.
6. Farmers often have problems with soil erosion when they clear their fields after the growing season. Soil type is one factor that influences erosion. Some soil types are prone to erosion than others. Based on the data you gather from this experiment, which soil types do you think are most easily eroded, soils with a high sand content or high clay content. Explain your answer.

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