



SOUTHWESTERN SOIL EXPLORATION WORKSHEET

Name: _____

Part 1: Directions for Soil Preparation

1. Use a CLEAR plastic or glass container at your station to get a soil sample. Only get enough soil to fill your cup $\frac{1}{4}$ of the way to the top of the cup.
2. At your station, carefully pour out the soil sample onto a paper towel.
3. Remove any rocks, leaves, sticks, bugs, etc. from the soil. Carefully put the soil back to the container and discard the excess material as directed by your teacher.
4. Carefully add 3 times as much water as soil to the container. DO NOT pour any soil in the sink or out of your container.
5. Stir the soil for at least 3 minutes with the spoon.
6. Place container in a spot that won't get bumped or moved.
7. Let container settle for 30 minutes or longer (overnight works as well).

Part 2: Exploration of Southwestern Soil through Pottery Questions

1. Go to the interactive map at the American Southwest Virtual Museum <https://swvirtualmuseum.nau.edu/>
2. Click on ENVIRONMENTS, and then click on the MOGOLLON RIM.
3. Find the section on GEOLOGY and summarize "Geology of the MOGOLLON RIM" below:

4. On the right-hand side of the page, there is a list of pottery types. Find MIEMBRES and look at the three examples.

a) What do these three examples of pottery have in common?



b) How do the materials match the geology of the Mogollon region?

c) How do you think soil type and the geology of the region influenced the design of these pieces?

- 5. Go back to the interactive map at the American Southwest Virtual Museum
- 6. Click on ENVIRONMENTS, and then click on the COLORADO PLATEAU.
- 7. Find the section on GEOLOGY and summarize “Geology of the COLORADO PLATEAU” below:

8. On the right-hand side of the page, there is a list of pottery types. Find ROOSEVELT RED WARE and pick three examples to look at.
a) What do these three examples of pottery have in common?

b) How do the materials match the geology of the Colorado Plateau region?



c) How do you think soil type and the geology of the region influenced the design of these pieces?

Part 3: Data Table for Soil Texture Triangle

Soil Sample	% Sand	% Silt	% Clay	Soil Texture
1				
2 (optional)				
3 (optional)				