

Chapter 6

Text Pages 156–163

STUDY GUIDE

● Soil

Use the terms in the box to complete the sentences. Use the information in your textbook.

soil	humus	A horizon
horizons	composition	below
topsoil	parent	top
evolve	bottom	leaching
soil profile	water	

- _____ is a mixture of sediments of weathered rock and organic matter.
- Decaying plant and animal matter is called _____ .
- Due to weathering, different layers, or _____ , of soil form.
- Soil generally has three layers, and these make up a _____ .
- The A horizon is the _____ layer and is also known as _____ .
- The B horizon is the layer _____ the A horizon.
- The C horizon is the _____ layer in a soil profile; it contains partly weathered rock but no humus.
- Below the bottom horizon is _____ rock.
- You can tell that the _____ is the most fully evolved soil layer because it has more humus and smaller rock fragments than the other layers.
- _____ moving downward through the horizons dissolves and carries minerals into lower horizons by the process of _____ .
- The thickness of the soil layers and their _____ depend on the climate, slope of the land, and the type of rock in an area and how long the soil has been evolving.
- Soil horizons _____ more slowly in an area that has little rainfall because chemical weathering occurs slowly in a dry climate.