

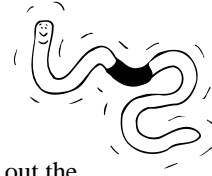
Name: _____

(last, first)

Earth/Environmental Science

Date: _____ Period: _____

Soil Observations and Comparisons



Directions:

1. Empty your soil sample on newspaper on your desk.
2. Complete the observation table below for SAMPLE A: MINE. As you are doing this, sort out the rocks, living items, and debris in your soil.
3. Physically switch seats with your partner. Complete the observation table for SAMPLE B. *You will need to ask where they got theirs, but DO NOT copy their column. Your perceptions might be different.*
4. Answer the analysis questions found below the table.

	Sample A: Mine	Sample B: _____ <i>(identify classmate)</i>
Where did it come from? <i>Ex. Front yard by walk; construction pile; include town and street</i>		
Color <i>Be descriptive not just brown! Ex. Reddish brown; coffee with milk</i>		
Texture/ Feel <i>Silky, grainy, claylike, sandy</i>		
Smell <i>Don't say "like dirt;" be descriptive</i>		
What non-living things are visible? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Describe all• Include a sketch of at least one item		
What living things are visible? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Describe all• Include a sketch of at least one item		

Analysis: Answer on back

1. Write a minimum five sentence paragraph that identifies how your soil sample was similar to your classmates and how it was different. Include WHY you think this might have been.
2. What did you like best about this activity? WHY?
3. What did you like least? WHY?