**Soil—**loose, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ material that covers much of Earth’s surface in which \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ can grow. Soil is composed of broken down rocks, sand, silt and clay.

**Permeability**—the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at which water will flow through \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in soil.

* **Gravel—**small, loose, rounded fragments of rock. There are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ spaces between the particles. Therefore, water runs through \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* **Sand—**feels coarse and grainy and has \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ grains than gravel. There are large spaces between the grains of sand and it can \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ water and air quickly.
* **Silt—**feels \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and soft. Silt is made up of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ grains than sand.
* **Clay—**feels slick or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Clay is made up of very small grains. There are very \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ spaces between the grains of clay and can hold too much water and not enough air.

**Loam**—soil that is made up of equal parts of clay, sand, and silt. The best soil for growing plants.