



Describe what soils are made of

Use this soil fact sheet to help you discover the names of the four soil types you have.

Peat soil

- Very dark colour
- Mostly organic matter
- Holds a lot of moisture



Clay soil

- Slightly orange colour
- Very fine particles
 - Sticky when wet
- Holds a lot of water but water may run off it at first



Sandy soil

- Light, yellow/brown colour
 - Feels gritty
- Falls through fingers
- Does not hold water well



Silt soil

- Medium colour
- Feels slippery and smooth
 - Small particles
 - Holds some water



Loam soil

- Dark/medium colour
- Feels slightly gritty and smooth
 - Holds some water



Chalky soil

- Light colour
- May have lumps of white stone in it.
- Does not hold water well





Describe what soils are made of

Fill in the table with your observations.

	Soil 1	Soil 2	Soil 3	Soil 4
Colour				
Texture				
Smell				
Other notes about its appearance				
Amount of water held (ml)				
Soil type				