

Soil Experiments.

Water Holding and Drainage.

The soils we are using are peat, sand and clay.

- 1 Place 3 filter papers in 3 funnels making sure the papers are spread out.
- 2 Carefully, place the same amount of dry soil in each filter paper. A different soil in each funnel. *Why must you use the same amount each time?*
- 3 Stand each funnel in a separate jar.
- 4 Carefully pour 100 ml of water into each soil. Do this slowly so that you do not stir up the soil. *Why must you use the same volume for each soil?*
- 5 Time how long it takes for the first drops to come through the soil.
- 6 Note how long it takes for all the water to drain through, the time for the last drops.
- 7 Measure the volume of water that has drained through the soil and compare to the volume you put in.

Results Table

Type of Soil.	Volume of water put in	Volume of water drained through	How much water has stayed in the soil	Time in secs for the first drips	Time in secs for the last drips
Peat					
Clay					
Sand					

Which soil drains fastest?

Which soil drains slowest?

Which soil retains (keeps in it) most water?

Which soil retains least water?