**Backyard Botany** Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Soil and Compost Review Period\_\_\_\_**

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Soil Horizons, Texture and Structure

1. List the three major soil horizons.

2. Which horizon contains organic matter.

3. Which horizon is located below the root zone.

4. List the soil particles in order from largest to smallest.

5. Explain why texture is important using more than two reasons.

6. What is the optimum pH for most crops?

7. Where does soil come from?

8. What are the main components of soil?

9. From smallest to largest, list the three types of soil particles.

10. What causes soil erosion?

11. What are some practices of soil conservation?

**Composting**

12. What is Composting?

13. Compost bins speed up the composting process by allowing you to control what factors?

14. What do you need to make compost?

15. Name at least three materials to avoid in your compost pile.

16. What are the advantages to shredding your compost? Is shredding necessary?

17. Explain what is meant by “Browns” in the compost pile. Give three examples.

18. Explain what is meant by “Greens” in the compost pile. Give three examples.

19. Give 3 characteristics of “Browns” in the compost pile.

20. Give 3 characteristics of “Greens” in the compost pile.

21. What is aerobic composting? Name 3 advantages to aerobic composting

22. Name 3 ways to aerate a compost pile.

23. Name one simple test to be sure your compost is finished.

24. List 3 considerations when choosing a spot to place your compost.

25. List 5 benefits to using compost in your lawn or garden.

26. What is compost tea and how is it used.