

The Origins of Soil

Introduction:



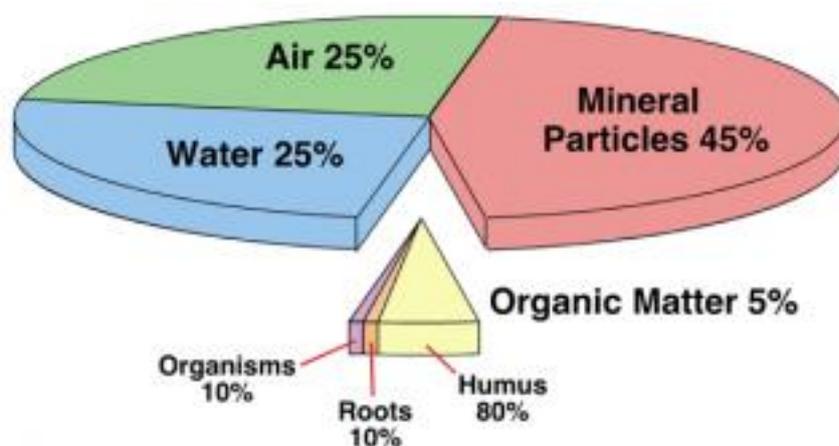
Soil comes from three main processes, mainly physical, chemical and biological processes. It is interesting to note that 1000 years of formation produces a 2.5cm of soil.

Explanation:

Physical Process: rocks become fragmented. Rain water is trapped between the spaces of the rock. As the water freezes it expands creating an internal pressure that breaks the rock. The rock will crack and crumble if it is heated and cooled alternately.

Chemical Process: rock will oxidize quickly under hot temperatures forming sand. Carbon dioxide will form a weak acid when dissolved in water. Some dissolved minerals will contribute further to weathering.

Biological Process: weathering can also be caused by overgrown roots through rocks. Weak acids are produced by the root tip which will decompose the rock.



Soil composition