

Sand

I am found at the beach, near lakes and rivers, and mixed into other soil types!
In Virginia, I am often **TAN** or **WHITE**.

I have **SMALL** and **MEDIUM** pieces of rock that get smaller over time.
I feel **ROUGH** and **GRITTY**, yet **SMOOTH** and **THICK** when wet.

I AM REALLY GOOD AT letting water move through the soil.
I move around easily, giving plant roots space to grow.

I AM NOT THE BEST AT holding nutrients that plant roots need.
The nutrients wash away, so plants have a hard time growing with only me.

Clay

I am found anywhere in Virginia but most often at construction sites or grassy areas!
I am most often **RED** in color.

I have **TINY**, closely packed pieces.
I can turn very **STICKY** and **THICK** when wet.

I AM REALLY GOOD AT holding soil together and keeping nutrients near plant roots.
But sometimes I can be too wet for the plant roots!

I AM NOT THE BEST AT letting plant roots grow or water to flow through me.
This is because my small pieces are so close together.

Rocky Soil

I am common in Virginia and found on the **SURFACE** and **DEEP UNDER GROUND**.
I am most often **DIFFERENT SHADES OF BROWN**.

I have **HARD, LARGE** pieces that are actually rocks.
It takes a very long time, but my big rocks will break down into soil.

I AM REALLY GOOD AT providing nutrients for plant roots.
My large pieces make paths for nutrients to get deep into the ground.
This is helpful so that the roots don't get too wet.

I AM NOT THE BEST AT holding on to enough water for plants to get big and strong.
My large pieces can't absorb or trap moisture.