



Soil Aggregate Stability Water Test

Student Investigation Worksheet

Name: _____ Date: _____ Team: _____

Before the Test: Prediction

Which soil clump do you predict will stay together longer in water, and what evidence supports your prediction?

Observation Guide

Higher Stability	Moderate Stability	Lower Stability
Stays largely intact; little material leaves aggregate.	Breaks into pieces, but some structure remains.	Rapidly slumps, crumbles, or disperses.

Water Test Observation Record

Sample / Location	Dry Aggregate: size, shape, roots, pores, residue, hardness, color	Immediately After Submerging	~30 Seconds	~5 Minutes	Water Clarity	Relative Stability
Sample 1						
Sample 2						
Sample 3						
Sample 4						

Compare and Analyze

1. Which sample stayed together the longest? What observations support your conclusion?

2. Which sample created the cloudiest water? What did you observe about particle movement?

3. What additional information or tests would you want before making a broader soil-health conclusion?

Evidence-Based Conclusion

My evidence suggests Sample _____ had higher aggregate stability because