

Science Study Guide: Pebbles, Sand, and Silt

Be able to put in order from smallest to largest: gravel, silt, sand, clay, boulders, cobbles, and pebbles.

Boulders

Cobbles

Pebbles

Gravel

Sand

Silt

Clay

What causes rocks to be different sizes?

- boulders can tumble down mountains and smaller pieces break off
- rocks land in rivers and the water moves the rocks, which causes them to bump into one another and break into smaller pieces
- ocean waves crash onto pebbles and break them into smaller pieces
- over time rocks break apart and become very tiny

What can be made from rocks?

gravel-concrete, sidewalks, roads

sand-glass, sidewalks

boulders-statues, churches

pebbles-streets, concrete

clay-bricks, pots

Be able to describe how tools can be used to separate rocks into different particle sizes. Think back to our activities in class.

1. How did we separate the river rocks into pebbles, gravel and sand?
2. How did we separate silt from sand?

Be able to sort rocks according to similar properties, such as light-colored, dark-colored, sharp-edged, and smooth-edged.

Soil is made up of many earth materials:

- sand
- clay
- gravel
- silt
- humus (decayed plants and animals)
- pebbles

List as many possible words that are used to describe rock properties.