



THE DIRT ON SOIL

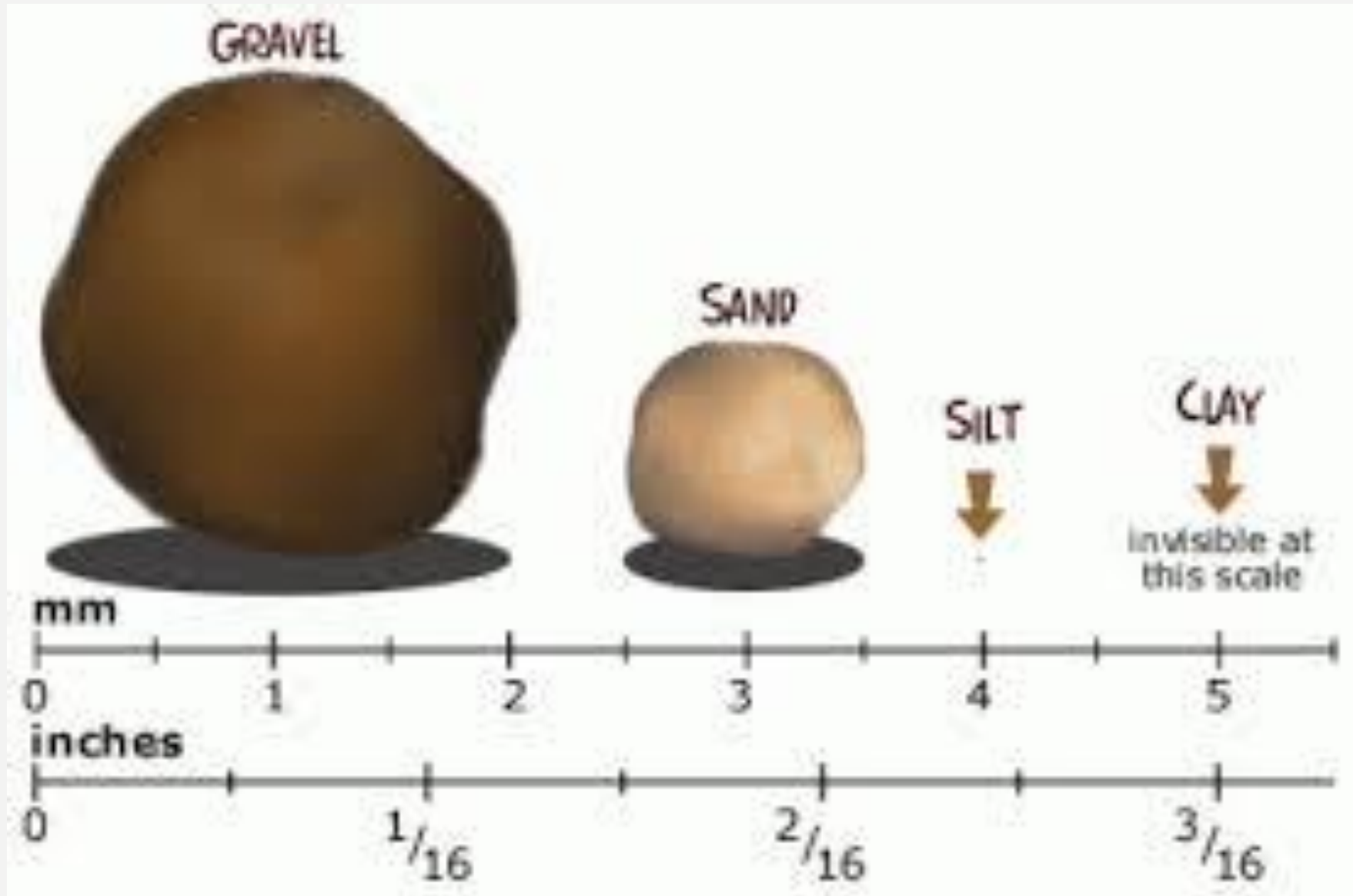
WHAT IS SOIL

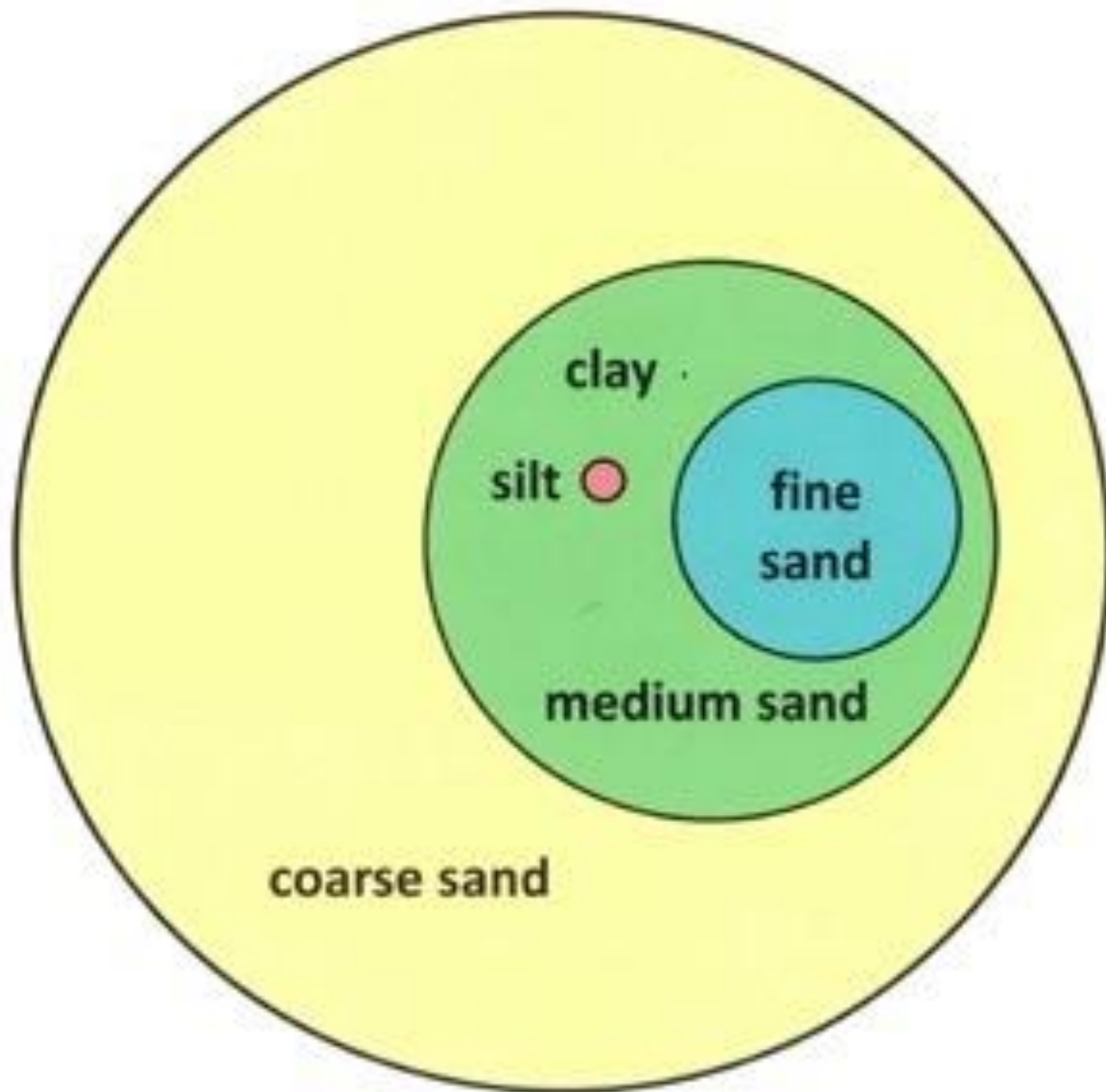
- A mixture of minerals, water, air, organic matter, and organisms that are decaying remains of once-living thing
 - 45% Minerals
 - 25% Water
 - 25% Air
 - 5% Organic Matter

DIRT SIZE

- Gravel: Particles that measure 2mm to 75 mm
- Sand: Particles that measure 0.05 to 2 mm
- Silt: Particles that measure 0.002 mm to 0.05 mm
- Clay: Less than 0.002 mm



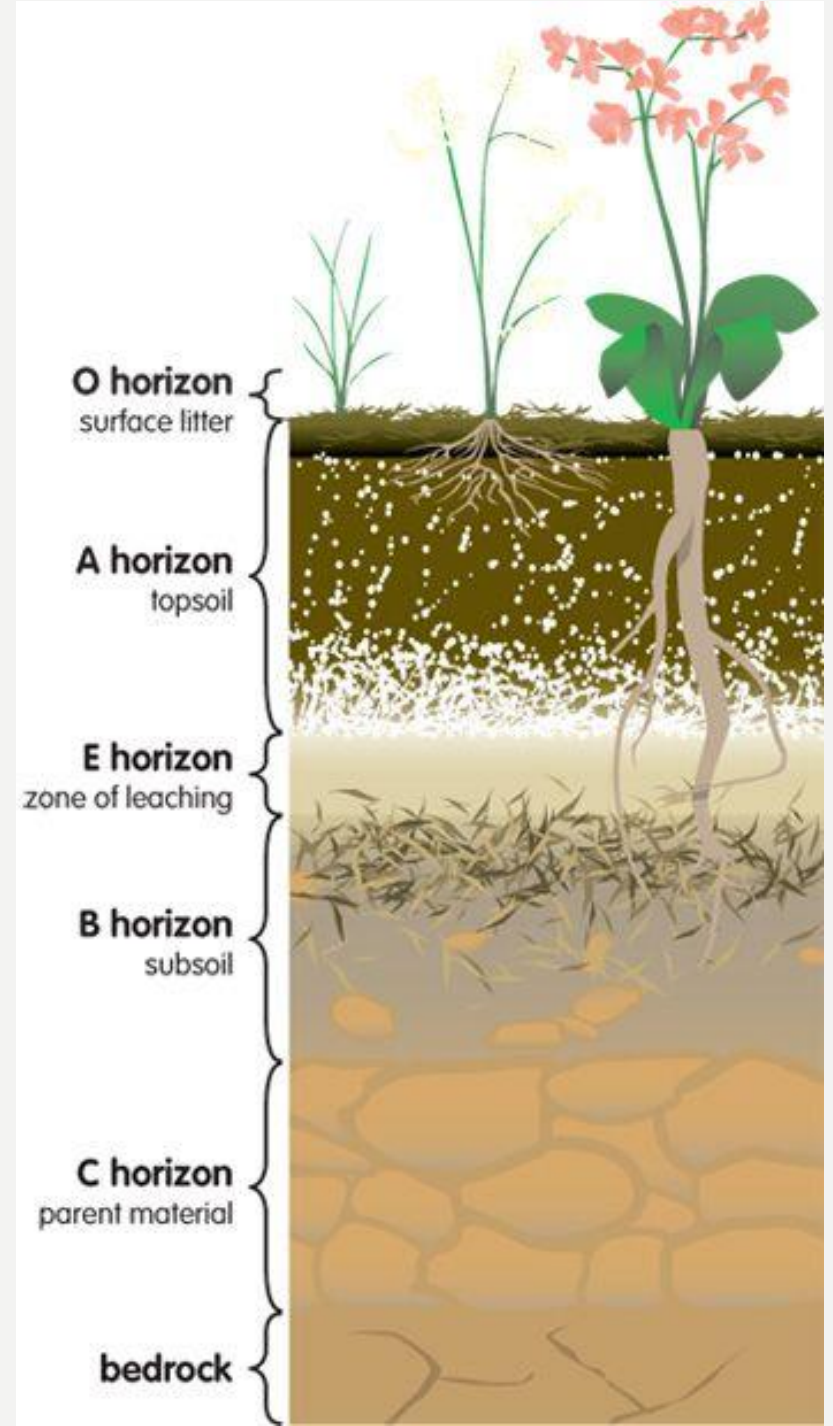
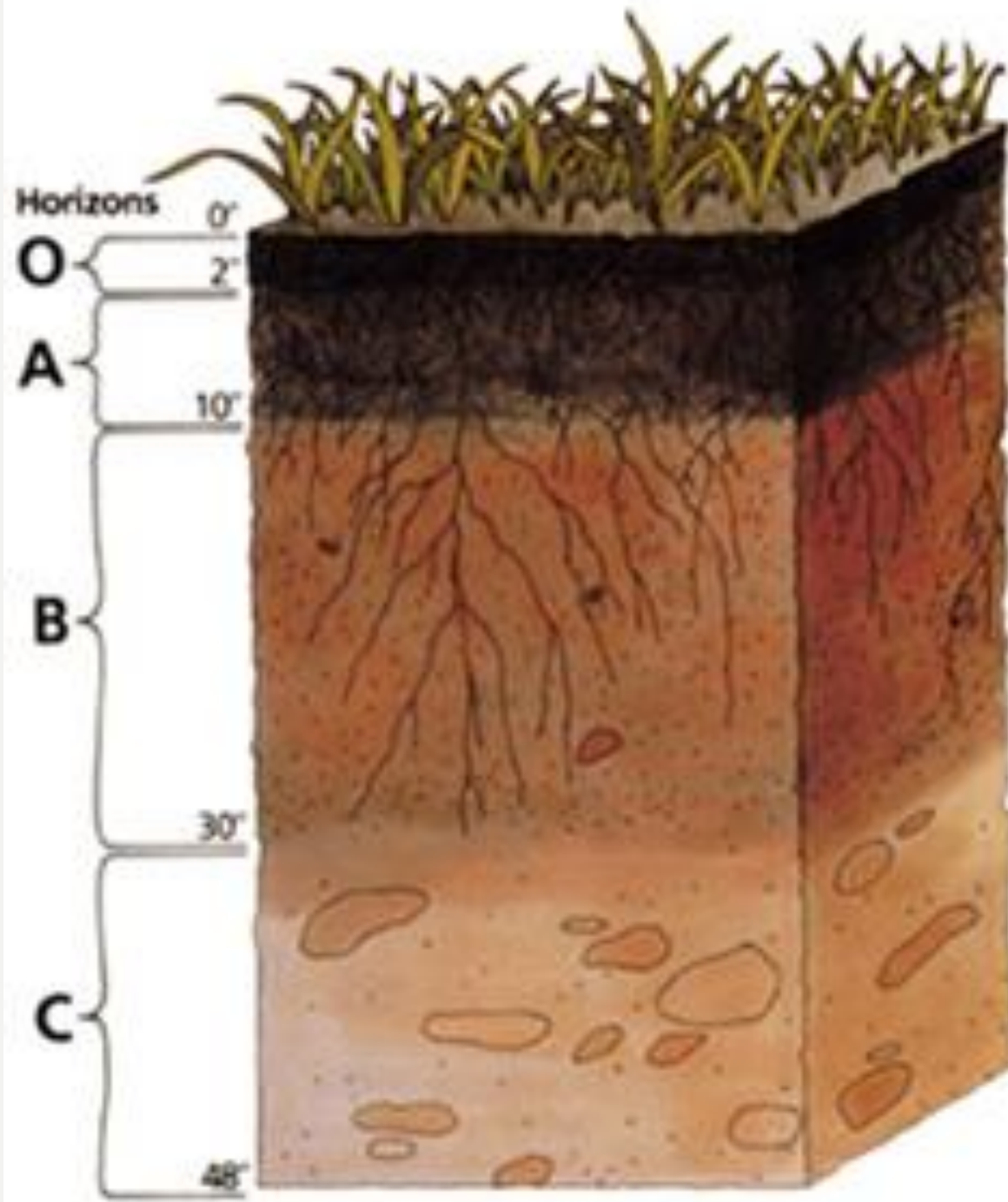


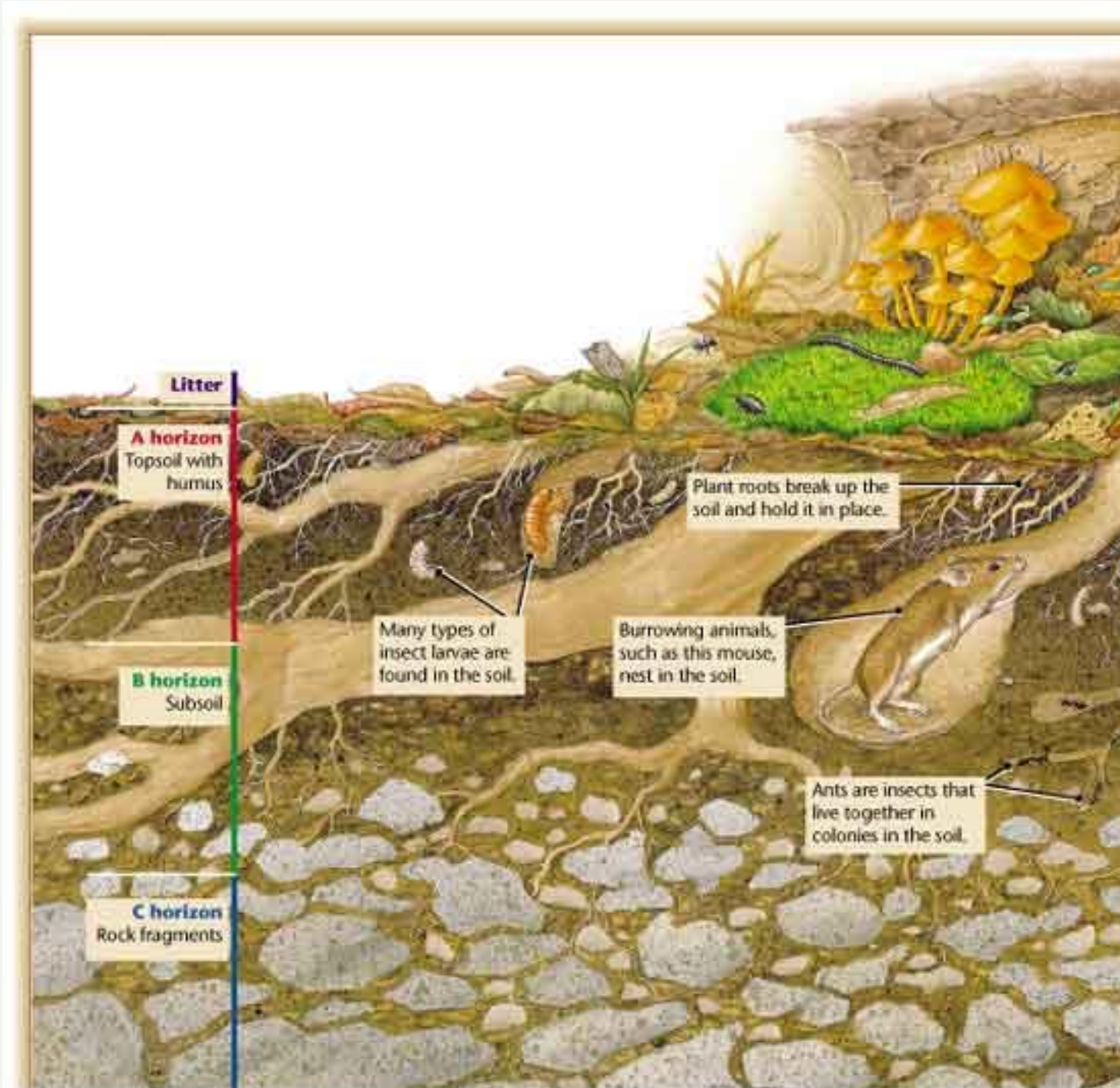


LOAM

- The Perfect mix of sand, silt, and clay







Litter – as plants shed their leaves, they form a loose layer on the top of the ground.

Humus forms in a process called **decomposition**.

Decomposers – organisms that break dead organisms into smaller pieces. Decomposers include bacteria, earthworms, and fungi (molds and mushrooms).