Soil Texture Triangle
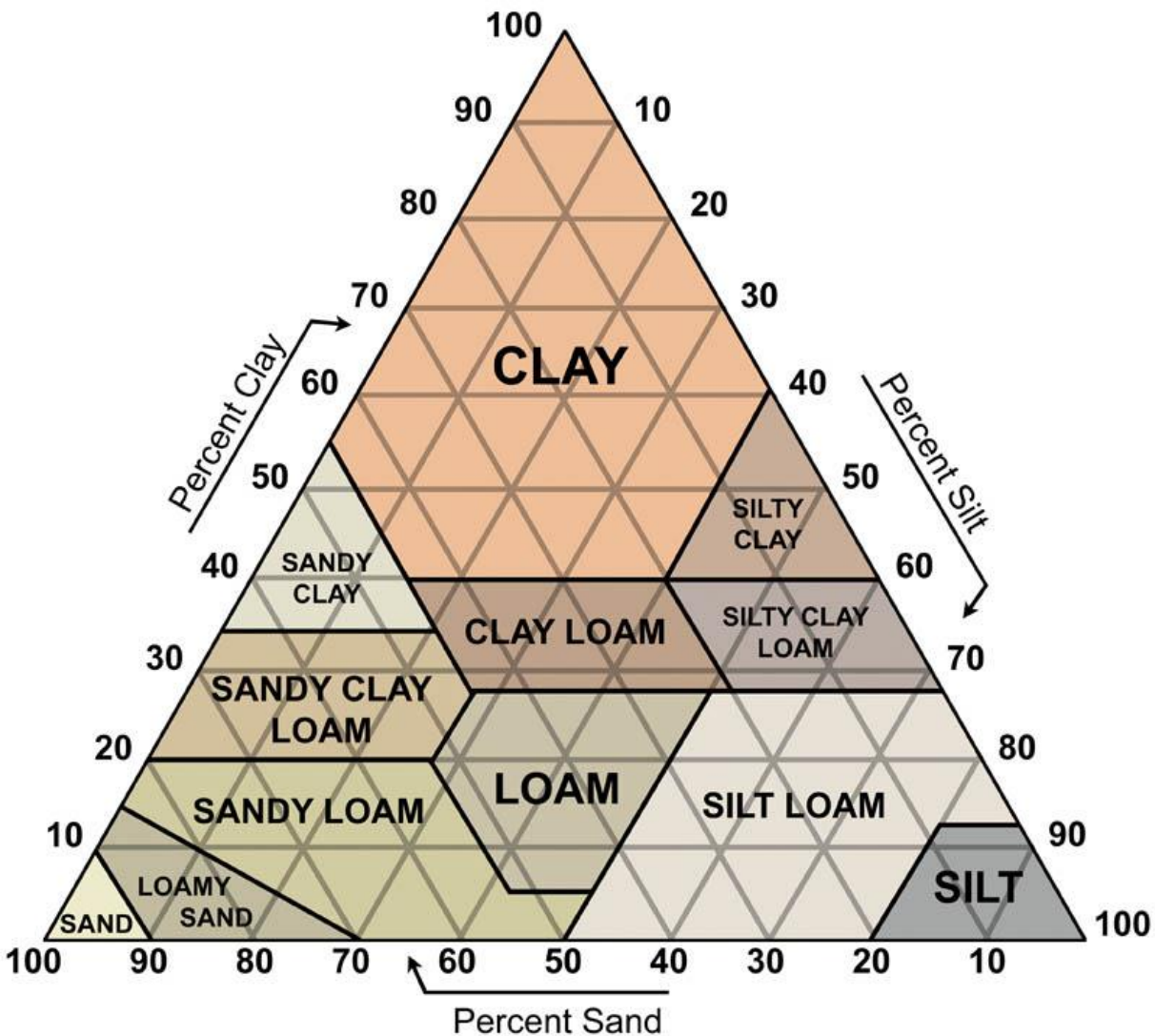
Conduct jar test: Dig a hole at least 1 foot deep. Fill a jar half full of soil. Shake sample in jar, allow soil to settle out.

The next day have students estimate the percentages of different particle sizes and use the soil texture triangle to figure out the soil type.

Texture	Permeability	Estimated Perc Rate Value
Sand, loamy sand	Rapid and very rapid (>6.0 in/hr)	Fast
Sandy loam	Moderately rapid (2.0 - 6.0 in/hr)	High Average
Loam, silt loam	Moderate (0.6 - 2.0 in/hr)	Average
Sandy clay loam	Moderately slow (0.2 - 0.6 in/hr)	Slow
Clay loam, silty clay loam	Moderately slow (0.2 - 0.6 in/hr)	Slow

From Soils Interpretation Help Sheet, Soils CDE – Interpretation Sheet (November 2010)

Soil Texture by Feel