



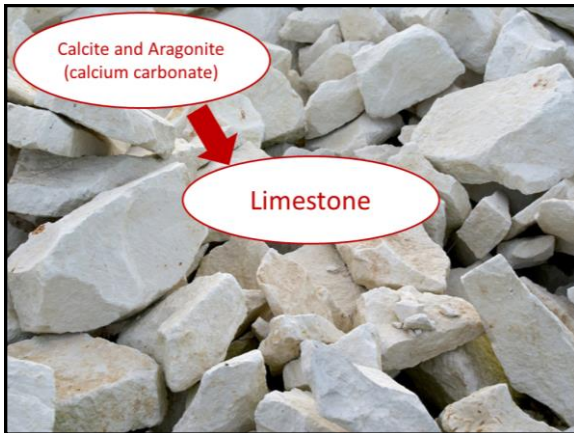


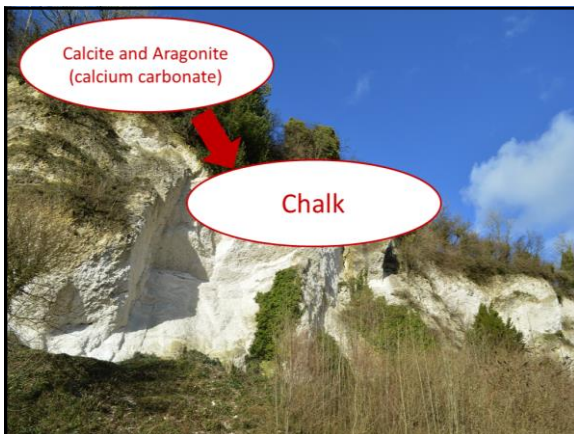
Rocks

Composed of minerals

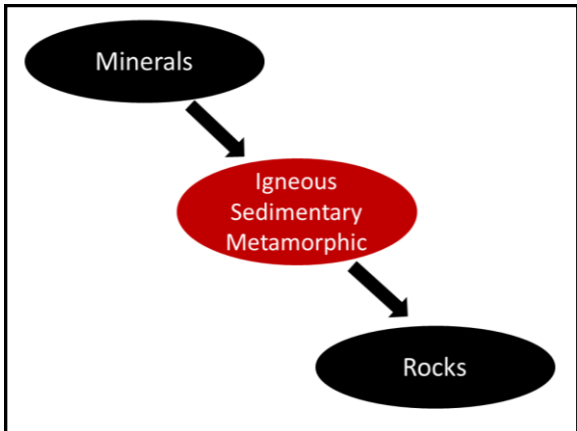
- Naturally occurring
- Do not have a specific or common structure
- Differentiated by mineral composition and texture





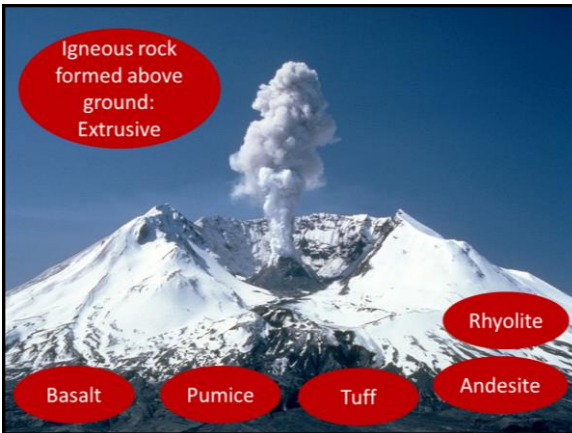


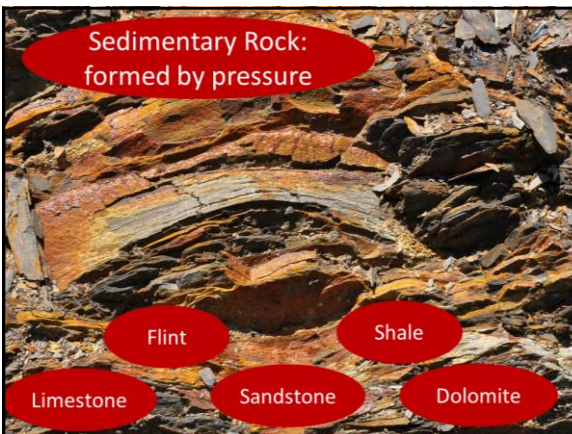


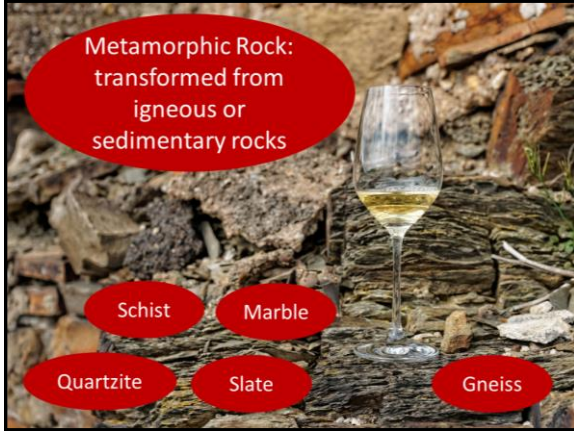




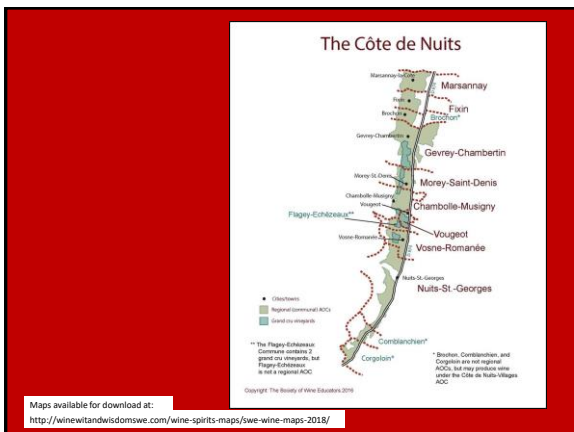


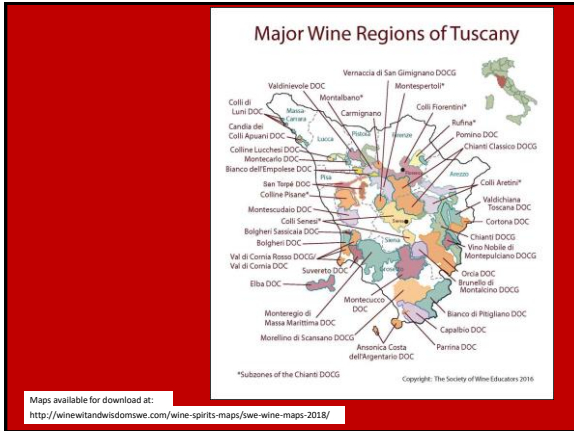


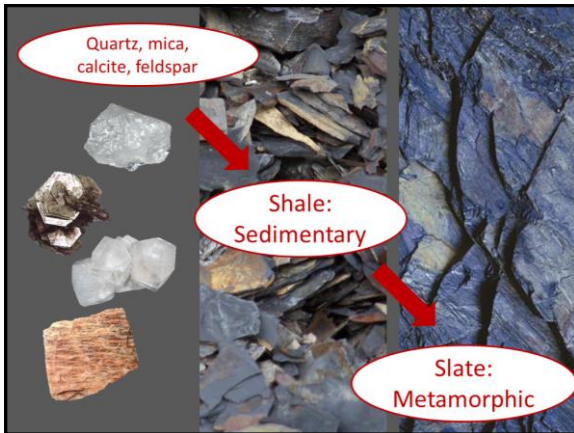


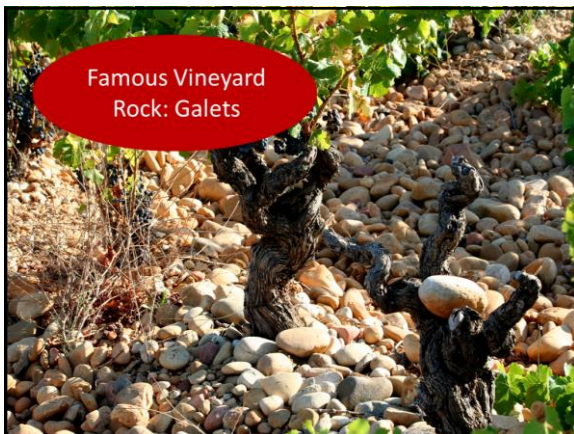


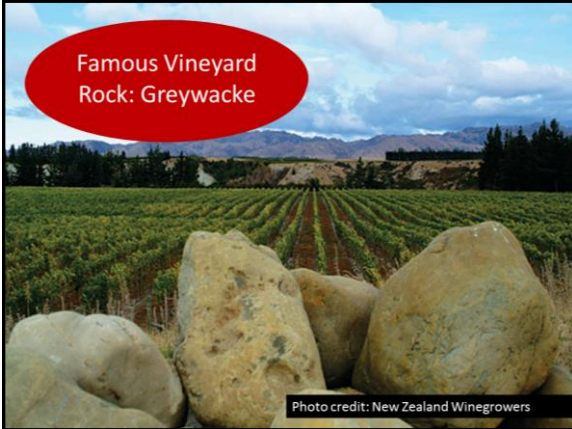


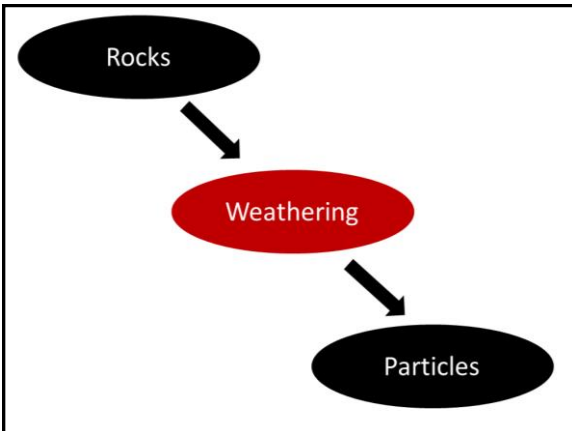




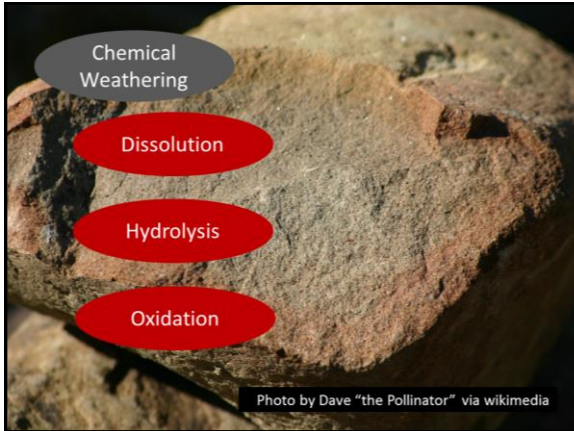


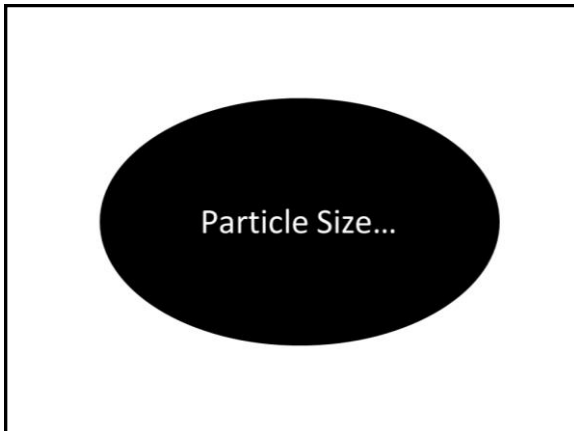


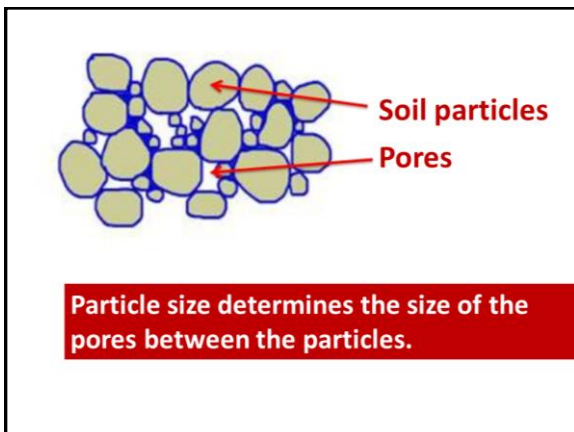


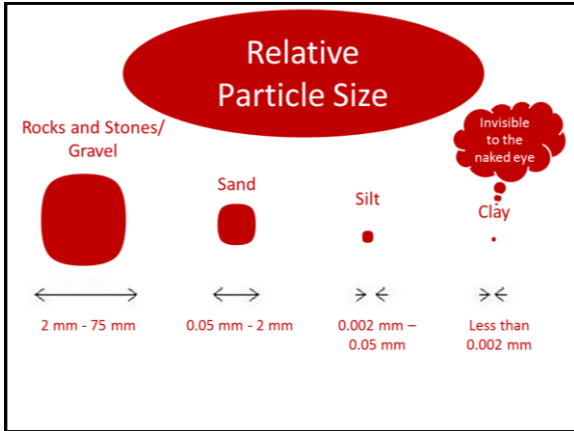




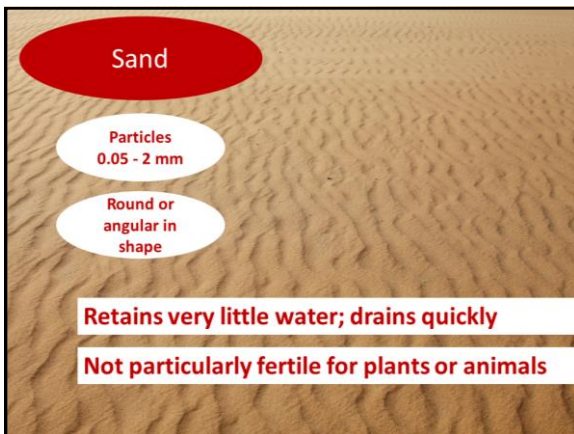












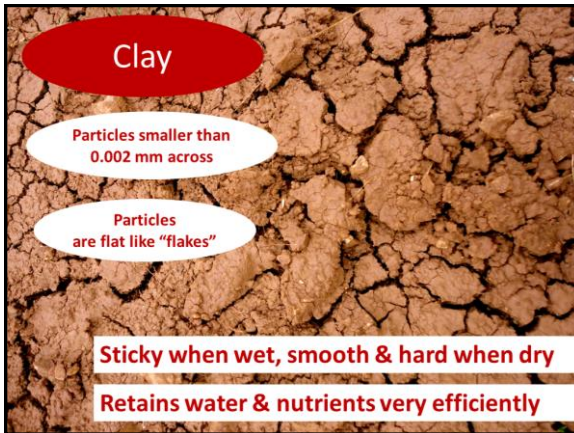


Silt

Particles
0.002 - 0.05 mm

- Retains more water & nutrients than sand (but less than clay)

Tends to be slippery or muddy (rather than grainy) when wet



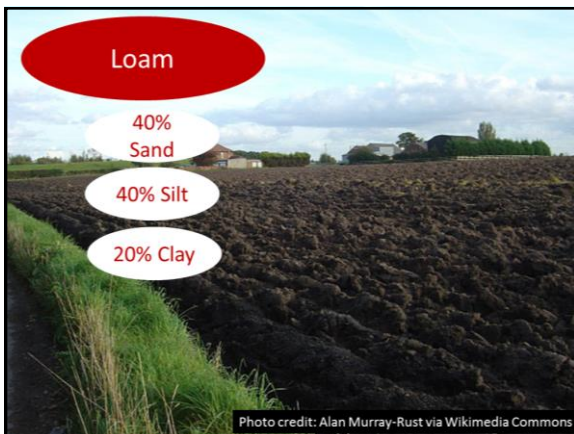
Clay

Particles smaller than
0.002 mm across

Particles
are flat like "flakes"

Sticky when wet, smooth & hard when dry

Retains water & nutrients very efficiently



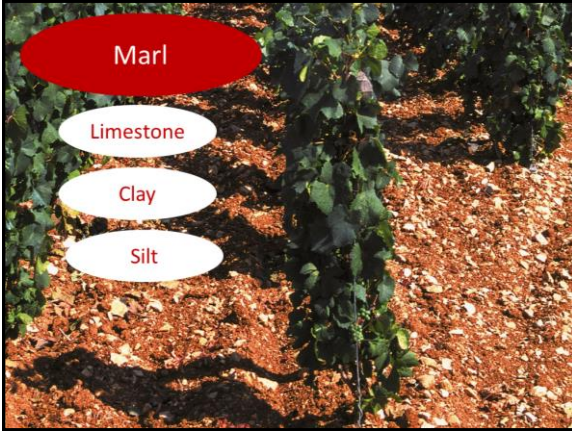
Loam

40% Sand

40% Silt

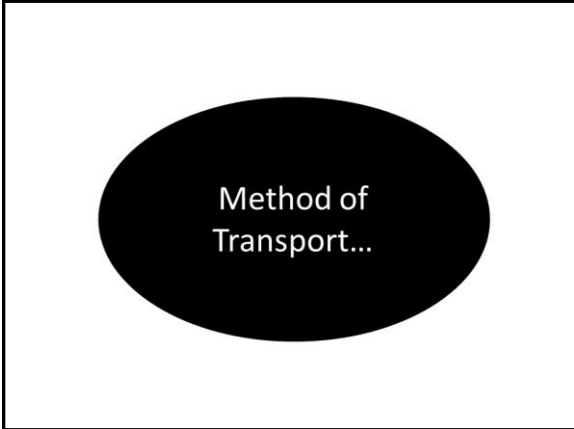
20% Clay

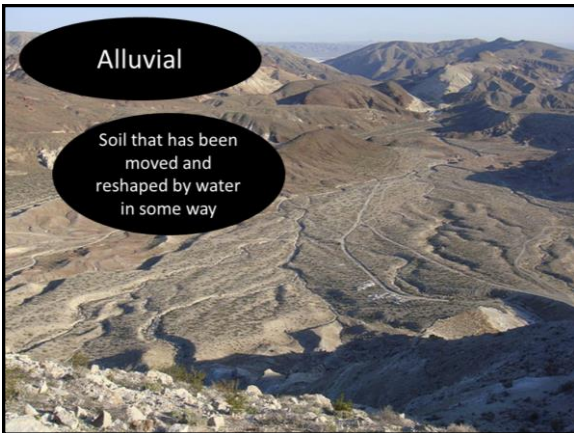
Photo credit: Alan Murray-Rust via Wikimedia Commons

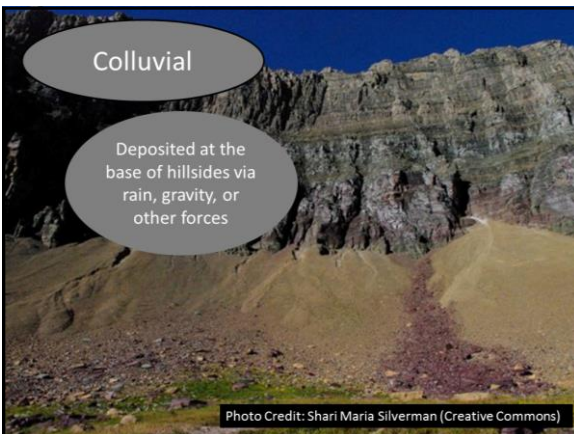






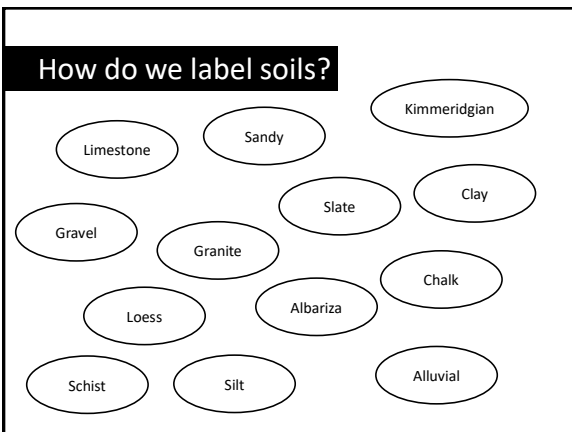




















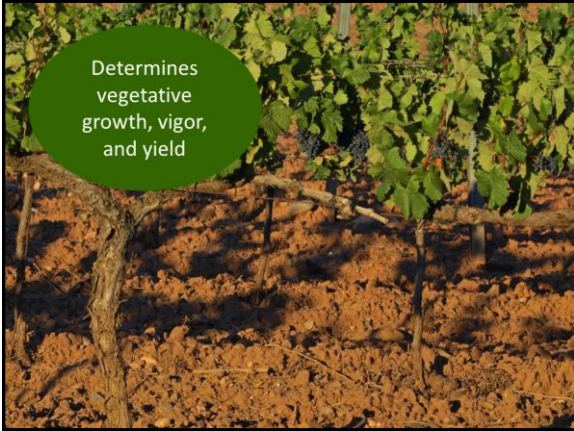


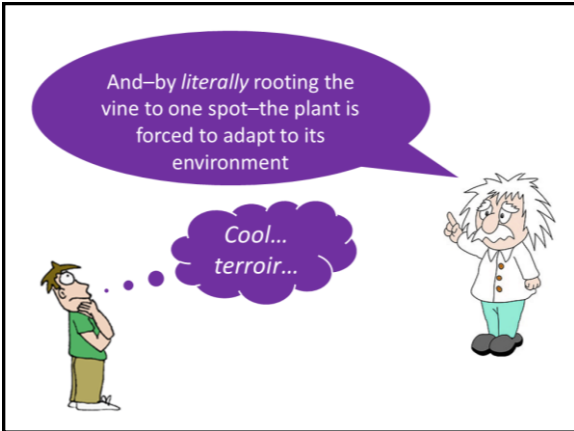












Sizing up Soil
with Jane A. Nickles,
CSE, CWE

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