

Name _____

Video Notes and Assignments

Video Notes

Video 1: What is Soil? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l6HGPOQ3dZY&feature=youtu.be>

Why is soil important to humans?

The use of soil that has the most impact on me is _____ because...

Discussion: Use one of the following if called upon during the discussion.

I agree with _____ and would like to add _____.

I hear what _____ is saying, however for me _____.

A question I have for the group is _____.

Vocabulary Words Definitions

soil:

fertile soil:

soil degradation:

forced migration:

overgrazing:

Video 2: The Value of Soil <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=403sT9CGRI0>

What are 3 ways soil being used around the world?

What are 4 causes of soil degradation?

How long does it take to make 10 centimeters of new soil?

What are 3 ways soil degradation affect humans?

Name _____

Video Notes and Assignments **Key**

Video Notes

Video 1: What is Soil? <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I6HGPOQ3dZY&feature=youtu.be>

Why is soil important to humans?

Possible answers are for food production, large source of biomass, stores carbon, filters water, prevents flooding, provides building materials and it is the land on which to build.)

The use of soil that has the most impact on me is _____ because...

Discussion: Use one of the following if called upon during the discussion.

I agree with _____ and would like to add _____.

I hear what _____ is saying, however for me _____.

A question I have for the group is _____.

Vocabulary Words Definitions

soil: the upper layer of earth in which plants grow

soil degradation: the decline in soil condition caused by its improper use or poor management

overgrazing: a situation in which there are too many cows or other animals eating grass in an area

forced migration: when people are made to leave their own place or home

fertile soil: soil has the ability to grow many plants

Video 2: The Value of Soil <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=403sT9CGRI0>

What are three ways soil is being used around the world? (grazing animals, making biofuels, and over farming)

What are 4 causes of soil degradation? (over used farmland, bad land management, cutting down trees, too much salt, fertilizers, soil erosion, climate change, over grazing)

How long does it take to make 10 centimeters of new soil? (2000 years)

What are 3 ways soil degradation can affect humans in what ways? (health issues, forced migration, loss of income, famine, conflict)

Scoring Guide for Poster

Name(s) _____

Requirements	Points Possible	Points Earned
Gives 4 causes for soil degradation	20	
Identifies 3 ways that soil degradation impacts humans	15	
Each student helped create the poster	15	
Total Points	50	

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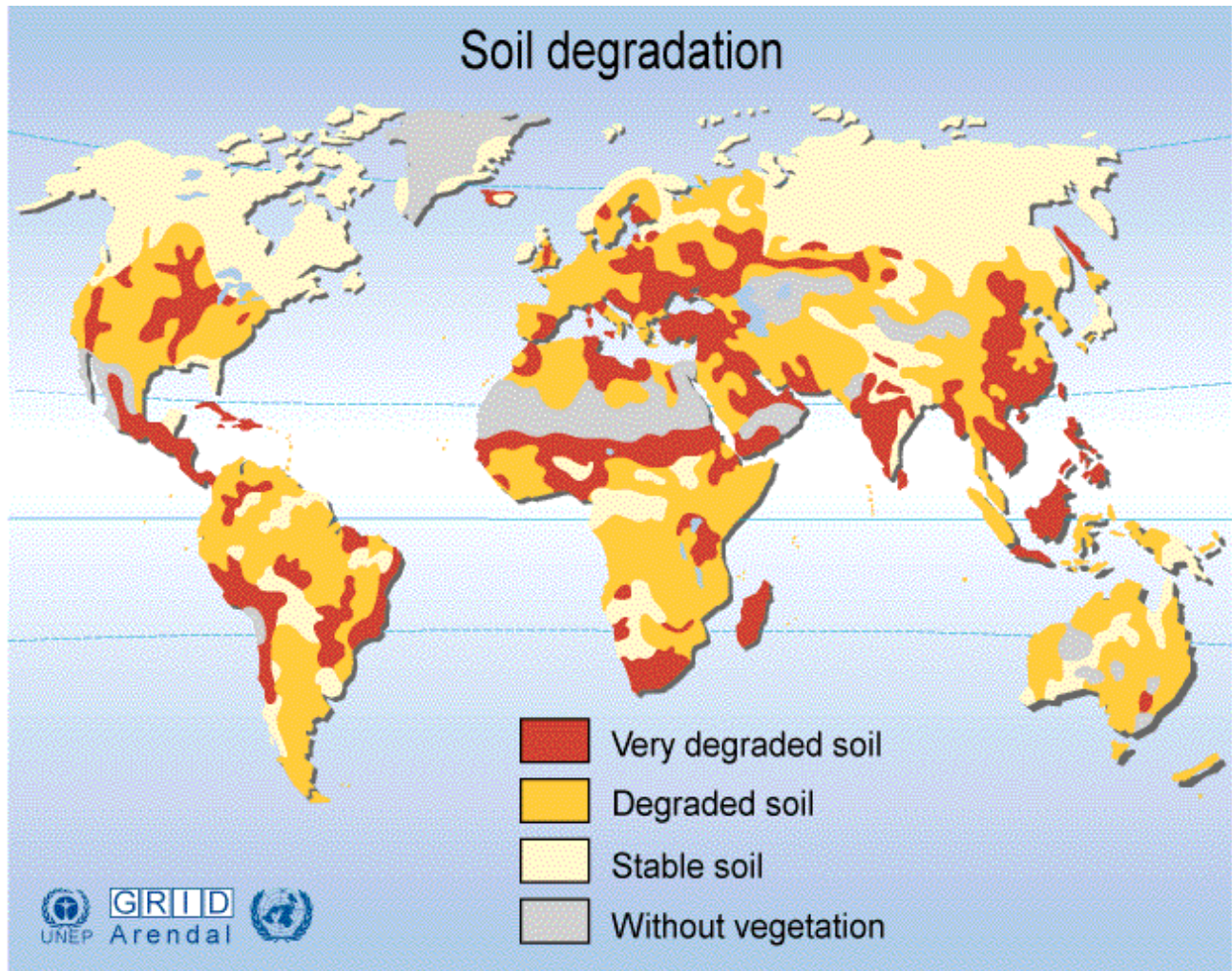
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Name _____ **Map Worksheet**



Using the map above, answer the following questions.

What is the title of the map?

What does the map show?

How would you describe the quality of our world's soil?

Which area shows least soil degradation? What do you think accounts for this?

Which area shows the most soil degradation? What do you think accounts for this?

How does the quality of US soil compare quality of soil in the rest of the world?

Map Worksheet Answer Key

What is the title of the map? **Soil Degradation**

What does the map show? **the quality of soil around the world**

How would you describe the quality of our world's soil? **mostly degraded or very degraded**

Which area shows least soil degradation? **Arctic areas** What do you think accounts for this? **fewer people, not many grazing animals, too cold—people are not interested in living or working there, no farming because it is too cold**

Which area shows the most soil degradation? **Almost everywhere** What do you think accounts for this? **People farming, deserts, large amounts of grazing animals, forests being cut down, erosion, etc.**

How does the quality of US soil compare quality of soil in the rest of the world? **About the same**

Graph Worksheet Answer Key

What is the title of the graph?
Principal Causes of Soil Degradation

What does the graph show?
the causes soil degradation by percentages

What is the principal cause of soil/land degradation of the world?
overgrazing

What is the principal cause of soil/land degradation in North America?
agricultural practices

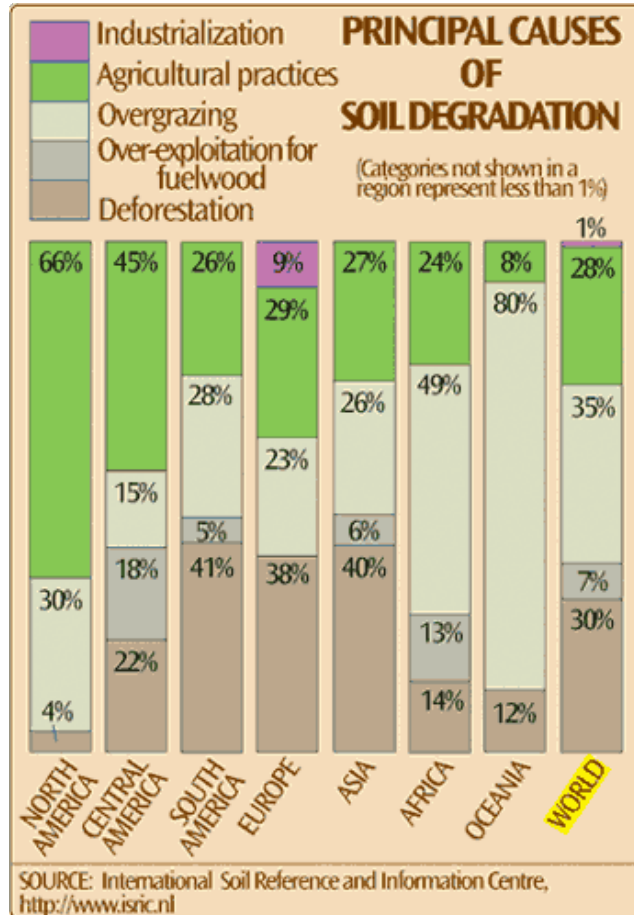
How does this compare with the causes of land degradation in the other regions?
North American has far more soil degradation from agriculture than other parts of the world.

What two human activities have the least impact on soil/land degradation?
over-exploitation for fuelwood and industrialization

How different do you think agricultural practices in North America are from those of other agricultural countries? **Possible answers are: North America uses more fertilizers, more pesticides, overuse of the land, etc.**

Name _____

Graph Worksheet



What is the title of the graph?

What does the graph show?

What is the principal cause of soil/land degradation of the world?

What is the principal cause of soil/land degradation in North America?

How does this compare with the causes of land degradation in the other regions?

What two human activities have the least impact on soil/land degradation?

How different do you think agricultural practices in North America are from those of other agricultural countries?

Writing Prompt Checklist

Name _____

The recipient of my letter will be _____.

In my letter, I will:

- _____ Clearly state the purpose for writing the persuasive letter. (Goals/Thesis)
- _____ Use the vocabulary words (soil, soil degradation, fertile, forced migration, overgrazing) in your letter correctly. (Word Choice/Tone)
- _____ Explain 4 ways that human activities impact soil degradation. (Reasons and Support)
- _____ Identify the scale of this problem (national, local, world?). (Reasons and Support)
- _____ State 3 ways that soil degradation impact humans. (Reasons and Support)
- _____ Give a solution (appropriate to the audience) to soil degradation. (Conclusion)
- _____ Check my punctuation, spelling and grammar. (Mechanics and Grammar)

Writing Prompt Checklist

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- _____ State 3 ways that soil degradation impact humans. (Reasons and Support)
- _____ Give a solution (appropriate to the audience) to soil degradation. (Conclusion)
- _____ Check my punctuation, spelling and grammar. (Mechanics and Grammar)

Persuasive Letter Rubric

	4	3	2	1
Goal/Thesis	Strongly and clearly states a personal opinion. Clearly identifies the issue.	Clearly states a personal opinion. Some references to the issue.	Personal opinion is not clearly stated. Little or no references to the issue.	Personal opinion is not easily understood. Has no reference to the issue.
Reasons and Support	Three or more excellent points are made with good support. It is evident the writer put much thought and research into this assignment.	Three or more points are made with support, but the arguments are somewhat weak in places. The writer doesn't persuade completely.	Two points made; shows some preparation, but weak arguments.	Preparation is weak; arguments are weak or missing; and less than three points are made.
Conclusion	Summarizes personal opinion in a strong concluding statement.	Summarizes personal opinion in a concluding statement.	Concluding statement is a weak summary of personal opinion.	Concluding statement makes no reference to personal opinion.
Organization	Sentences and paragraphs are complete, well written, and varied.	Sentence and paragraph structure is generally correct.	Sentence and paragraph structure is inconsistent.	Little or no evidence of sentence or paragraph structure.
Word Choice/Tone	Choice of words that are clear, descriptive, and accurate. Maintains consistent persuasive tone throughout letter.	Adequate choice of words that are clear and descriptive. Demonstrates a persuasive tone in parts of the letter.	Choice of some words that are clear and descriptive. Lacks consistent persuasive tone.	Language and tone of letter is unclear and lacks description.
Mechanics and Grammar	Contains few, if any punctuation, spelling, or grammatical errors.	Contains several errors in punctuation, spelling, or grammar that do not interfere with meaning.	Contains many punctuation, spelling, and/or grammatical errors that interfere with meaning.	Contains many punctuation, spelling, and/or grammatical errors that make the piece illegible.

QUIZ – Soil Degradation

Name _____

Read the following questions carefully and on the space provided before each number, write the letter of the correct answer.

- _____ 1) Soil is made up of four main ingredients. Which is NOT one of the four ingredients?
A. minerals
B. water
C. air
D. salt
- _____ 2) Which area on Earth has the LEAST amount of degraded land?
A. equator
B. Australia
C. Arctic
D. South America
- _____ 3) What are the two GREATEST causes of land degradation?
A. agriculture and wood collection
B. energy production and pollution
C. industry and mining
D. overgrazing and agriculture
- _____ 4) Which of the following causes of soil degradation is NOT a farming practice?
A. over using the land
B. overgrazing
C. using too much fertilizer
D. urbanization
- _____ 5) The following are effects of soil degradation EXCEPT
A. loss of income
B. increased flooding
C. better crops
D. warming of the Earth

QUIZ – Soil Degradation Answer Key

Read the following questions carefully and on the space provided before each number, write the letter of the correct answer.

- ___D___ 1) Soil is made up of four main ingredients. Which is NOT one of the four ingredients?
A. minerals
B. water
C. air
D. salt
- ___C___ 2) Which area on Earth has the LEAST amount of degraded land?
A. equator
B. Australia
C. Arctic
D. South America
- ___D___ 3) What are the two GREATEST causes of land degradation?
A. agriculture and wood collection
B. energy production and pollution
C. industry and mining
D. overgrazing and agriculture
- ___A___ 4) Which of the following causes of soil degradation is NOT a farming practice?
A. urbanization
B. over using the land
C. overgrazing
D. using too much fertilizer
- ___C___ 5) The following are effects of soil degradation EXCEPT
A. loss of income
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