Objective 7 - Soils

Using the resources on my website in addition to the Chapter handed out in class answer the following questions:

1. You can hand this in, in class if you prefer - or do it on the computer. Draw a soil profile.  **Identify AND describe** each soil horizon (o-horizon, A-horizon, B-horizon, C-horizon, and Parent Bedrock).  Be sure to identify which horizon has a humus or topsoil and which horizon is called the leached horizon.
2. Compare a young soil to a mature soil. Be descriptive.
3. Describe why soils are so important and why they form the base of life even though they are considered an abiotic factor.

4.  Create a table that shows how color is related to nutrient load

5. Define pH and describe the scale used to determine pH.  Draw a pH scale indicating values

for acidity, neutrality, and alkalinity (0,7,14). Write the corresponding hydrogen ion

concentration (i.e. 1.0 x 10-7).

6. Describe what soil is composed of, be sure to include the four distinct parts.

7. Describe the pore space and how it affects water holding capacity and air space.

8. Describe and identify life in the soil.

9. What are some methods farmers have taken to avoid another “Dust Bowl”? List and describe three soil conservation practices in the United States.

10. What is soil salinization and how can it be remedied?