**Unit 8: Weathering & Soil Formation**

**Text Readings:** pp. 236-247, 248-255, 256-259

**Be able to:**

* + Explain how weathering and erosion affect Earth’s surface
	+ Identify what causes mechanical weathering and chemical weathering
	+ Describe the factors that determine how fast weathering occurs
	+ Describe the composition of soil, and explain how it forms
	+ Explain how scientists classify soils
	+ Identify the roles of plants and animals in soil formation
	+ Explain why soil is a valuable resources
	+ List ways that soil can lose its value
	+ Identify ways that soil can be conserved
	+ Correctly apply significant figure concepts to calculations
	+ ***…PLUS any other key concepts discussed in class…***

**Vocabulary: *NB Use your book, handout, notes, and other sources to complete and add to the provided vocabulary words. Be sure to update with your own clarifying notes, definitions and examples. The list below may not be comprehensive.***

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| **Weathering** |  |
| **Erosion** |  |
| **Uniformitarianism** |  |
| **Mechanical weathering** |  |
| **Abrasion** |  |
| **Ice wedging** |  |
| **Chemical weathering** |  |
| **Oxidation** |  |
| **Permeable** |  |
| **Soil** |  |
| **Bedrock** |  |
| **Humus** |  |
| **Fertility** |  |
| **Loam** |  |
| **Soil horizon** |  |
| **Topsoil** |  |
| **Subsoil** |  |
| **Litter** |  |
| **Decomposer** |  |
| **Sod** |  |
| **Natural resources** |  |
| **Dust Bowl** |  |
| **Soil conservation** |  |
| **Contour plowing** |  |
| **Conservation plowing** |  |
| **Crop rotation** |  |
| **Precision** |  |
| **Accuracy** |  |
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