

Name _____



From Stone to Soil

Instructions: Below is a scrambled list of events showing how a rock can transform over time into soil. Your mission is to **arrange the steps in the correct order** from **rock formation** all the way to **soil creation**. Write the letters **A-H** in the blank before each step to show the correct sequence.

- ____ 1. Layers of minerals and organic matter build up over time.
- ____ 2. Wind, water, or ice carry broken rock fragments to new places.
- ____ 3. Rainwater seeps into cracks in the rock, slowly breaking it apart.
- ____ 4. Large molten rock cools and hardens into solid rock deep underground or on Earth's surface.
- ____ 5. Rock fragments are further broken into tiny mineral grains.
- ____ 6. Tree roots and burrowing animals pry apart and loosen rock pieces.
- ____ 7. A layer of fertile soil forms, ready to support plant growth.
- ____ 8. Dead plants and animals mix with mineral grains, adding nutrients.

Challenge Question:

Explain in **two sentences** why both **weathering** and **erosion** are necessary for soil creation.
