

## Soil and Water Experiment Answer Key

Water pH *before* experiment ~5-7

1. How did the pHs of different soil types compare to each other?

Most soils have a pH between 3.5 and 10. Areas with higher rainfall have more acidic soils, between 5-7, while arid regions have more basic soils, between 6-9. Soils found near water sources or in forested regions will be more acidic than those in drier areas or large fields.

2. Did any of the soils change the pH of the water? If so, by how much and how is that affected by the length of time the water mixes with the soil?

Yes, soil will affect the pH of water but not by much. The two pH levels interact and the soil usually sees a larger effect. The runoff water stays relatively stable in pH with minor changes towards a more neutral level.