**Soil as a Natural Resource—How much water is absorbed by soil?**

**Problem:** Which soil absorbs the most amount of water?

**Hypothesis:**

**Materials:** paper cups, nail, different types of soil (gravel, sand, topsoil, vermiculite, peat moss)

**Procedure:**

1. Use a nail to punch 2 holes in bottom (towards center) of five plastic cups (already done for you)
2. Fill cup with 100 ml of first material (sand, gravel, topsoil, peat moss, or vermiculite)
3. Place the cup over the graduated cylinder
4. Pour 100 mL of water from beaker into the cup.
5. Start the stopwatch when you pour the water
6. Measure and record the amount of water dripping from your cup every minute for 5 minutes
7. After 5 minutes remove the cup of material from the graduated cylinder
8. Measure and record the total amount of water dripped into graduated cylinder. Calculate how much water the material was able to absorb.
9. Repeat the steps 2-8 above for each material.
10. Prepare a table of your data. Make sure you label correctly.
11. Prepare a graph of your data. Make sure you label correctly.
12. Write a paragraph analyzing your data.
13. Bullet your conclusions: Do all soils regulate water the same? Why is it important that soils regulate water?