Corn Science Investigation

KEY

1. What could cause the soil samples to have different densities?

Soil samples can have different densities due to their mineral compositions. Minerals have different densities. The moisture content could of the sample could also effect density.

2. What information does the shape of each soil grain provide?

The minerals that make up the different samples can provide information such as hardness, the amount of weathering the sample has experienced and more.

3. Did you notice the color of the soil samples looking different under magnification? Why do you think that is?

Each soil sample can have different colors because of the mineral composition.

4. List the layers in order as to which settled first in the beakers of water.

Clay will settle first, then silt, then sand or smaller particles.

5. Which soil sample is most like the one collected from the crime scene?

Student answers will vary based on the collected evidence.

6. Create a paragraph describing how the evidence you collected links one of the unknown soil samples to the crime scene.

Student answers will vary.