Office of Academics
Austin Independent School District

Name: _____Date_____ Score: _____

WATER RETENTION FOR DIFFERENT PROPERTIES OF SOIL

- Place a folded coffee filter into the funnel on the top of the graduate cylinder.
- Put one scoop of the first material (soil, sand, gravel, or clay) into the coffee filter.
- Fill a measuring cup with 100 ml of water.
- Pour 100 ml of water into the soil type. ***** pour slowly so it will not over flow*****
- The water that flows through soil type will collect in the graduated cylinder.
- Measure the amount of water collected in the graduated cylinder and record the data on your lab sheet.
- Subtract the amount of water collected in the graduated cylinder from the 100 ml of water you started with.
- Record on the lab sheet how much water was retained (held back) by each of the soil types.
- Repeat procedure and collect your data with each soil type.

Soil Type	Amount of water started with	Amount of water left in graduated cylinder	Amount of water retained.
Soil			
Sand			
Clay			
Gravel			

Describe what you observed about the water retention for each different soil type.