

Name _____

Gardening Gold: Finding and Enhancing the Perfect Soil

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Answers will vary but may include steps like adding organic matter, using raised beds, and amending the soil with gypsum to address compaction.
2. Organic fertilizers and cover cropping reduce the need for synthetic chemicals, enhance soil health, and promote biodiversity. They contribute to sustainable agriculture by minimizing environmental impacts.
3. Converting rocky, infertile soil into a garden requires patience and strategies like removing rocks, improving drainage, and amending the soil with organic matter. Success may take several seasons.
4. Gardening fosters a deeper connection to nature by highlighting the importance of soil health. This understanding can inspire sustainable practices and appreciation for the environment. It can be applied to promote responsible land management and conservation.

