

SUBJECT: GEOGRAPHY

CLASS: SS3

SCHEME OF WORK

| WEEK | TOPIC |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. | Revision / Environmental Conservation |
| 2. | Transportation in Nigeria |
| 3 - 4. | Manufacturing Industries in Nigeria |
| 5. | Commercial Activities in Nigeria |
| 6. | Representation of Relief Landforms |
| 7 – 8. | World Population |
| 9 – 10. | Settlement |
| 11. | Revision |

REFERENCE MATERIAL

Essential Geography for Senior Secondary Schools, O.A. Iwena.

WEEK ONE

TOPIC: ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

Environmental conservation is the process of preserving natural resources from loss, waste or exploitation in order to ensure continuous availability.

Environmental conservation methods include the following:

- Afforestation
- Re-afforestation
- Cover-cropping
- Improved farming techniques
- Environmental education
- Recycling
- Legislation against environmental degradation.

EVALUATION:

1. Define environmental conservation.
2. Mention some of the methods of environmental conservation.

SOIL

Soil is defined as the thin surface of the uppermost layer of the earth crust on which plants grow.

Composition or Components of Soil

Soil is made up of five components which are (i) inorganic or mineral matter (ii) organic matter (iii) soil water (iv) soil air (v) living organisms

Mineral or Inorganic matter, organic matter, water and air are collectively referred to as **physical components of the soil** while living organisms are referred to as **biological** components of the soil.

(1) Mineral or Inorganic Matter

The mineral matter represents small rock fragments of the soil. It forms the bulk of about 45% of total volume of the soil. It consists of gravel, stones, sand, silt and clay.

Importance / Effects of Mineral Matter on Agriculture

- (i) It forms the solid part of the soil which provides support for plants.
- (ii) Mineral matter is the main source of plant nutrients such as nitrogen, calcium, magnesium iron etc.
- (iii) It represents the home or habitat of all soil living organisms.
- (iv) It holds water and air for both plants and animal activities.
- (v) Mineral matter has moderating effects on soil temperature.
- (vi) It also affects soil porosity.

(2) Organic Matter

The organic matter represents the remains of the decomposition of plants and animals. It is about 5% of the total volume of the soil. Leaves, roots of plants, the residue of crops, animal dung, etc. when they are deposited on the soil, they decay to form a dark colour on the upper part of the soil. This becomes organic matter which is also called **humus**.

Importance / Effects of Organic Matter on Agriculture

- (i) It is very rich in plant nutrient.
- (ii) It is the habitat of...