WATER TABLE LAB

Name_____ Block____

PURPOSE: to demonstrate the water table and zones of aeration and saturation

MATERIALS: mixture of sand and gravel(mostly gravel), beaker, water, string Masking Tape labels for: Water Table, Zone of Aeration, Zone of Saturation

PROCEDURE:

1. Fill a beaker three-fourths full with the mixture of sand and gravel.

2. Pour water down the side of the beaker carefully until the water level is about halfway up the beaker.

3. Tie a piece of string around the beaker at the water table. Put the Water Table label on the string.

4. Put the Zone of Aeration and Saturation labels in the correct places on the side of the beaker.

5. Have the teacher check your beaker. Teacher initials: _____

6. Draw the beaker, strings and labels and make observations.

OBSERVATIONS:

Sketch

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

SUMMARY QUESTIONS:

1. What happens when the Water Table is below the surface of the Earth?
   (a)
   (b)

2. What happens when the water table is above the surface at various places?
   (a)
   (b)

3. In general, how deep must a well be drilled to find water?

4. Could groundwater become polluted through the well?
   If so, how?

5. How does **Groundwater** get to the **Zone of Saturation**?

   What is the **Zone of Saturation** made of?

   What is the **Zone of Aeration** made of?

6. What is the difference between the **Zone of Aeration** and the **Zone of Saturation**?

7. What causes the **Water Table** to rise or fall?