



## Practical Significance

### Summary - Clays

- > Clay particles are like plates or needles. They are negatively charged.
- > Clays are plastic; Silts, sands and gravels are non-plastic.
- > Clays exhibit high dry strength and slow dilatancy.

### Summary - Montmorillonite

- > Montmorillonites have <sup>very</sup> high specific surface area, cation exchange capacity, and affinity to water. They form reactive clays.
- > Montmorillonites have very high L. limit (100+), plasticity index and activity (1-7)
- > Bentonite (a form of Montmorillonite) is frequently used as drilling mud.