

Identifying Grassland Plants

Objective: Identify the classifications and characteristics of grassland plants.

Materials and Equipment:

Cutting utensils for collecting samples
Tape, glue, or clear contact paper
Three-ring binder or photo album

Procedure:

1. Collect 20 different plant species found in a grassland area. Include at least three plants from each plant type represented in the guide.
2. Press the plants using the plant press constructed in AS 1.
3. After the plants are pressed and dried, use tape, glue, or clear contact paper to attach these samples to the mounting sheets provided, one sample per page. (Note: The best way to mount plants is by placing clear contact paper over the entire sample.) Place the plants exactly as they should look, since they cannot be moved once they are attached.
4. Fill in the "Plant Type" section, identifying the plants as grasses, legumes, forbs, or woody plants. The rest of the sheet will be completed after Lesson 3.
5. Place the samples in the binder or photo album.

Date Found _____

Location _____

Botanical Name _____

Common Name(s) _____

Plant Type _____

Life Cycle _____

Root Structure _____

Modified Stem Structure _____

Inflorescence _____

Leaf

Grasses

Blade Shape _____

Collar _____

Leaf Bud Arrangement _____

Sheath _____

Auricle _____

Ligule Shape _____

Broadleaf Plants

Surface Texture _____

Arrangement _____

Venation _____

Type _____

Shape _____

Leaf _____

Base _____

Tip _____

Margin _____

General Comments:

