

My Field Journal



Photo: Sandy Beach August 2010

*Caring for the planet begins with getting
to know our neighbours of different species*

-Robert Bateman

This field journal was developed by the 140th Edmonton Rangers as part of the T.R.A.I.L.S. project, made possible by a grant from Alberta Eco Trust

Name: _____

Biodiversity Word Search

N O I T A V R E S N O C
M S I N A G R O T B K B
A S L L Z F N M I X D D
R J E Y A E A O Q E T M
T F R I H E S U H Z E S
H Y U C C P R S N A U L
R U I N H E R O D A G I
O L D E G E P O B O F A
P G R Y T I W S B H L R
O E A A F O R E S T O T
D R W T N A T U R E R B
S I G S B E A U T Y A G

ARTHROPODS

BOG

FAUNA

FUNGI

NATURE

TRAILS

BEAUTY

BOREAL

FLORA

LICHEN

ORGANISM

WATERSHED

BIOSPHERE

CONSERVATION

FOREST

MEADOW

SPECIES

Introduction

Use this space for any additional notes or sketches

We see nature all around us, but when was the last time you really LOOKED at nature.

This journal was developed to help you discover a whole new way of seeing the world around you. In any season or in any place, nature journaling helps us slow down, observe, reflect and connect to our natural environment.

Through sketching, painting, writing, listening, and photography, we hope you make this a living journal, adding to it every time you explore nature.

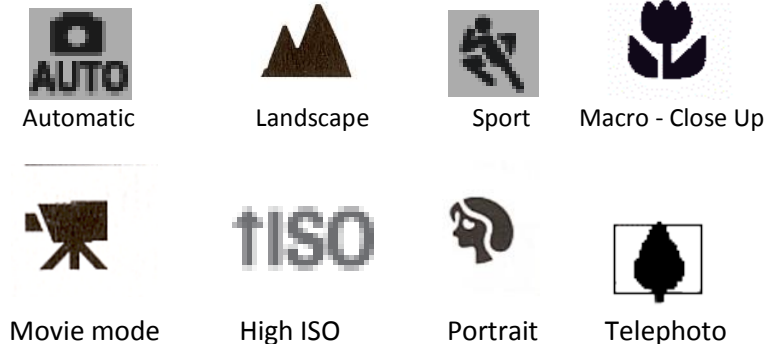


Photography

Photographing nature can help you identify species, especially if you don't have enough time to draw them. Here's a few tips to get you started:

- Be creative – take pictures from different angles or a close up to catch the fine details
- Be careful of the light – don't shoot pictures if it is too light or too dark and don't take pictures aimed at the sun
- If using a digital camera, you can take lots of pictures – you can always delete the pictures that don't turn out.
- Take notes of the pictures you take – it will remind you later what the picture is and why you took it. You can make these notes in your field journal

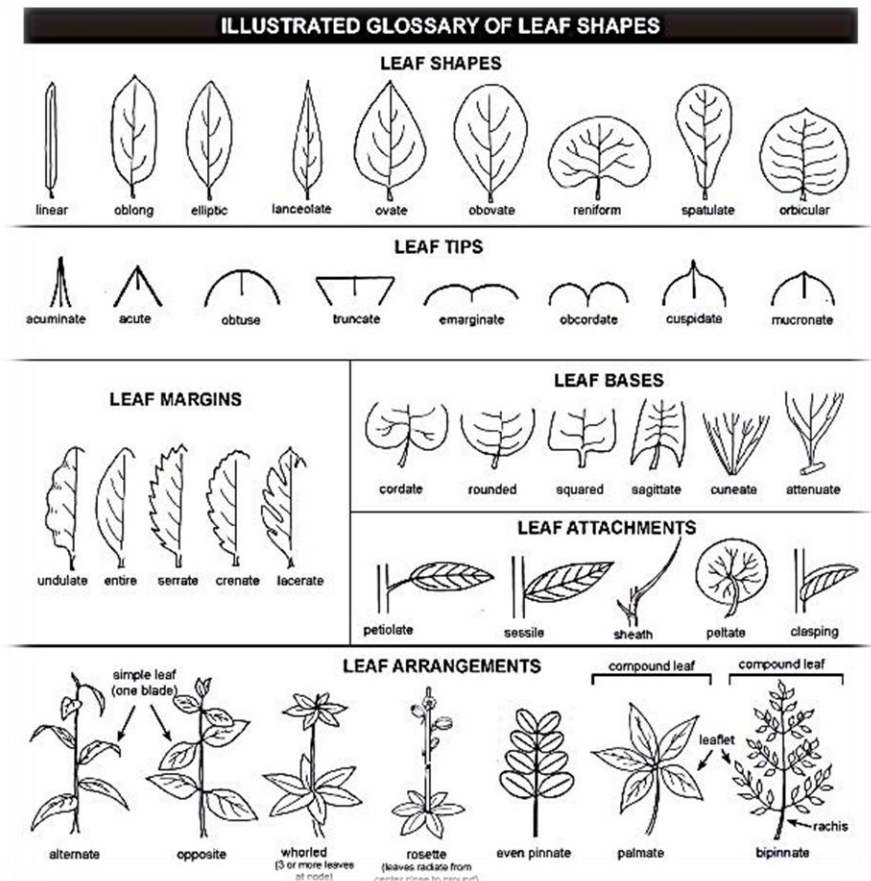
Common Camera Settings:



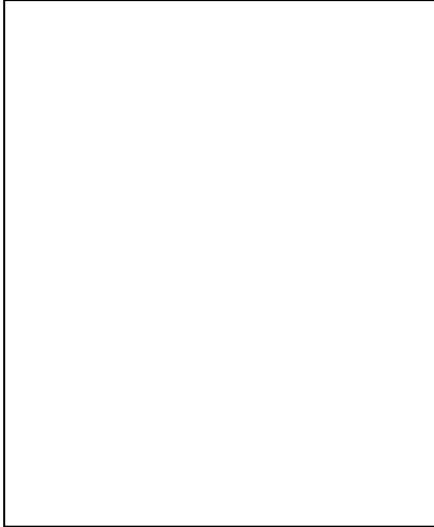
Plant Identification

When observing a plant, look at the leaves, what shape are they? Colour? Are the edges smooth or toothed? Is the stem thick or thin? Round or square? How it is attached to the stem. Does it have a flower? How many petals? What colour? What shape? This helps to identify the plant in the field guide. Visit again in another season when berries appear or leaves change colour.

When sketching, look at the plant, not your paper – it doesn't have to be perfect. Draw only what you see, don't add details that aren't there.



Plants



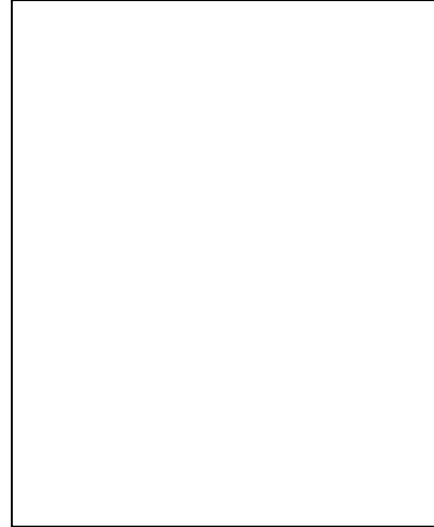
Plant Name: _____

Date: _____

Weather: _____

Notes: _____

Spiders

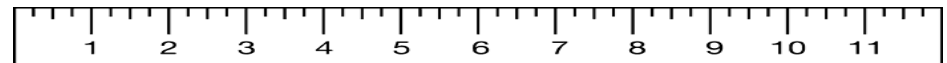
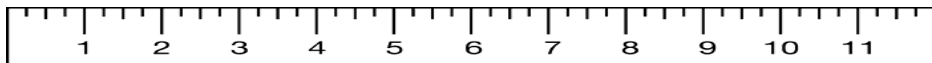


Name: _____

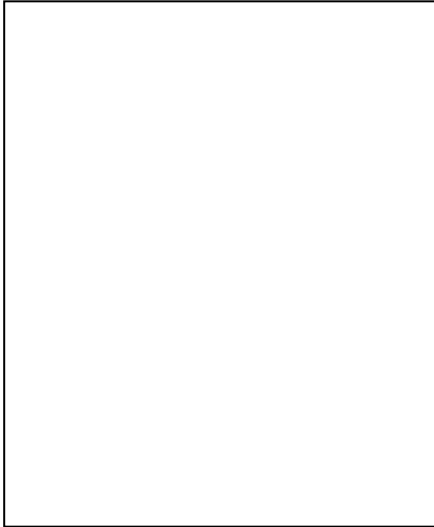
Date: _____

Weather: _____

Notes: _____



Insects

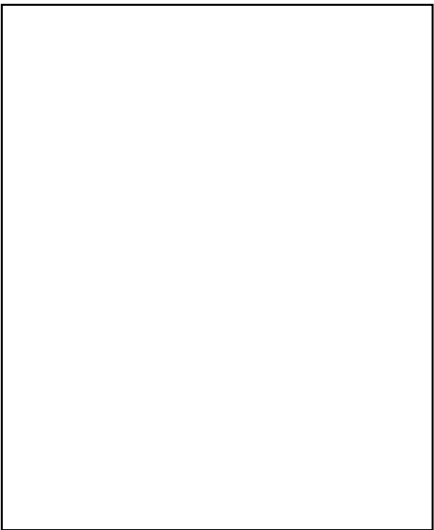


Name: _____

Date: _____

Weather: _____

Notes: _____



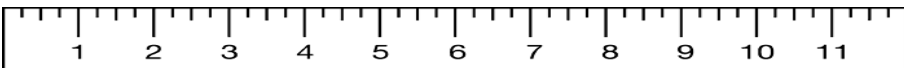
Name: _____

Date: _____

Weather: _____

Notes: _____

20.



Plants



Plant Name: _____

Date: _____

Weather: _____

Notes: _____



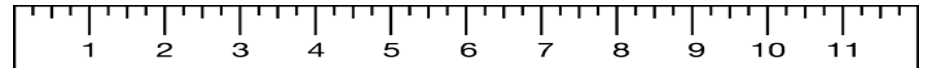
Plant Name: _____

Date: _____

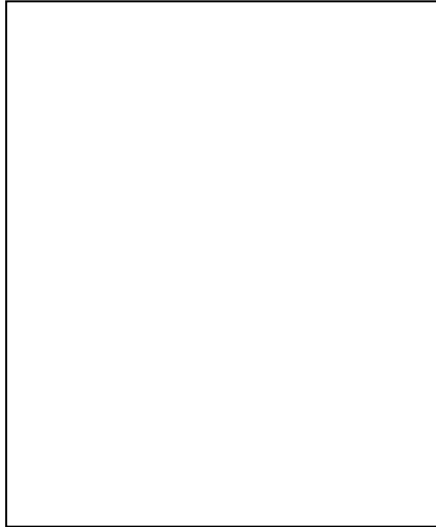
Weather: _____

Notes: _____

5.



Plants

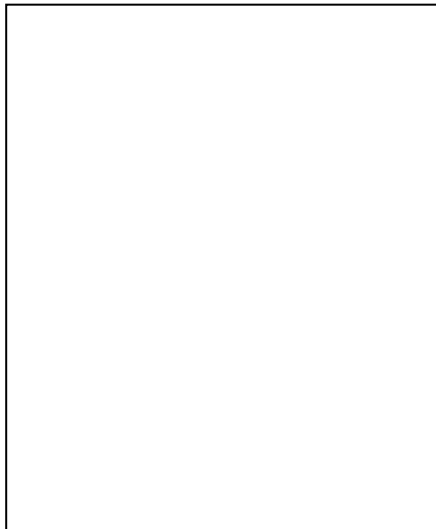


Plant Name: _____

Date: _____

Weather: _____

Notes: _____



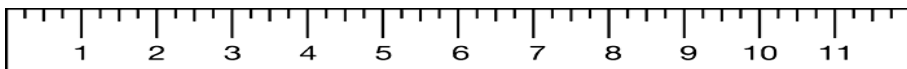
Plant Name: _____

Date: _____

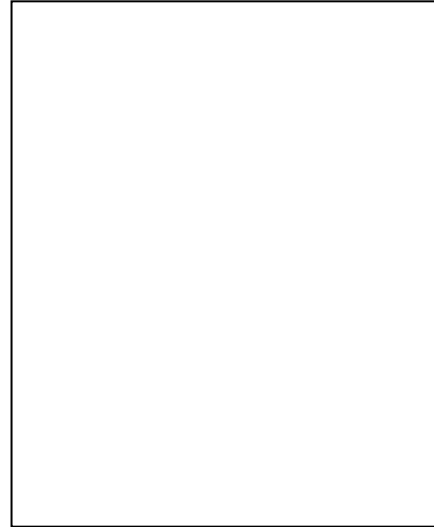
Weather: _____

Notes: _____

6.



Insects

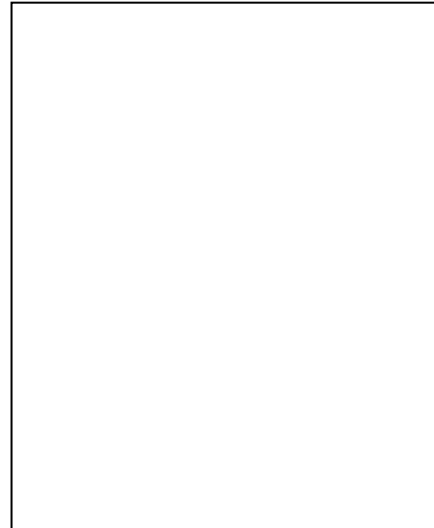


Name: _____

Date: _____

Weather: _____

Notes: _____



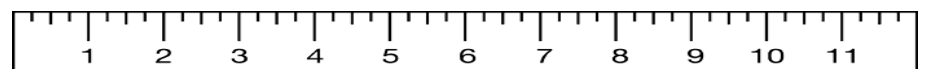
Name: _____

Date: _____

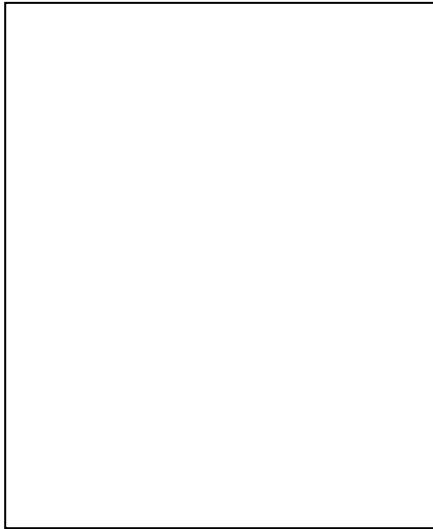
Weather: _____

Notes: _____

19.



Reptiles and Amphibians



Name: _____

Date: _____

Weather: _____

Notes: _____

Use the spaces below to record any other reptiles or amphibians you have identified using the field guide:

Date: _____ Species: _____

Date: _____ Species: _____

Date: _____ Species: _____

Date: _____ Species: _____

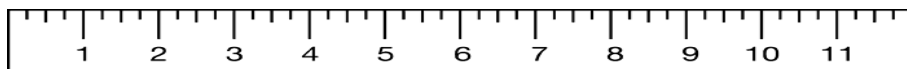
Date: _____ Species: _____

Date: _____ Species: _____

Date: _____ Species: _____

Date: _____ Species: _____

18.



Plants

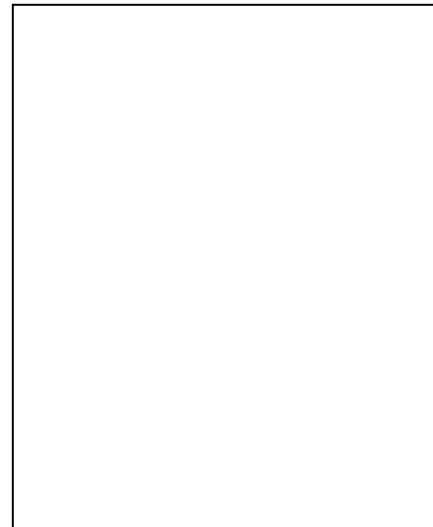


Plant Name: _____

Date: _____

Weather: _____

Notes: _____



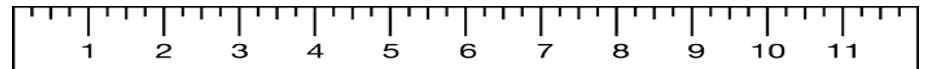
Plant Name: _____

Date: _____

Weather: _____

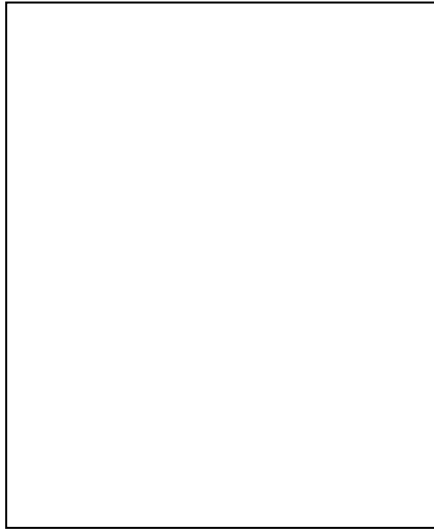
Notes: _____

7.



Trees (Conifers)

Draw the tree, needles or cones, or do a bark rubbing

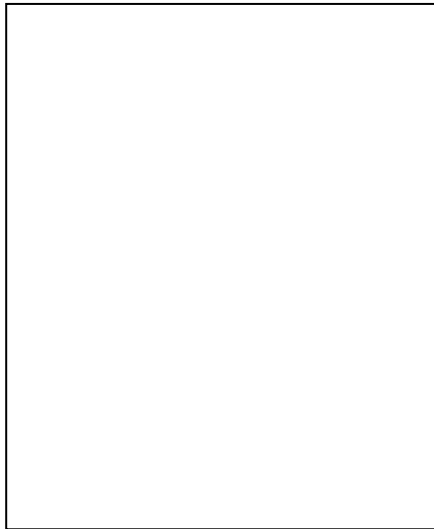


Tree Name: _____

Date: _____

Weather: _____

Notes: _____



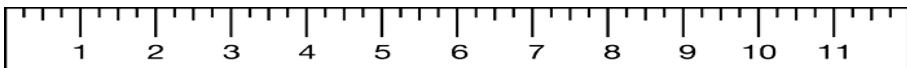
Tree Name: _____

Date: _____

Weather: _____

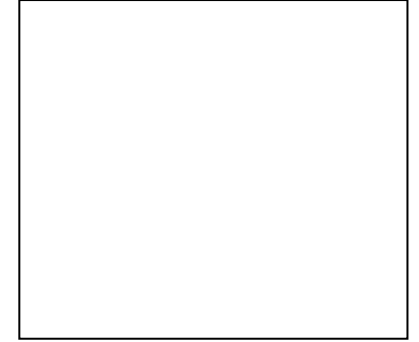
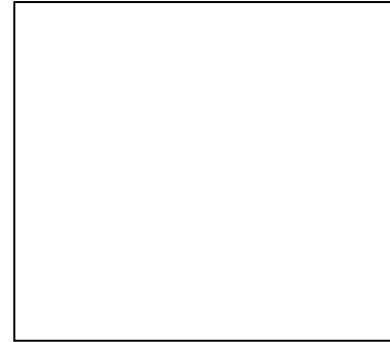
Notes: _____

8.



Animal Tracks

Tracks in the mud or snow can help identify the animal that made them. See if you can find any tracks and draw them.



Guide To Animal Tracks

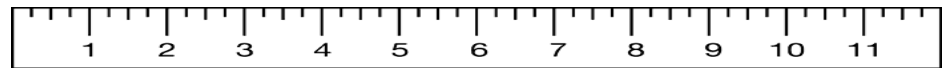
TRACKS NOT TO SCALE

Depending on the substrate (snow, mud, dust, sand, etc.) and the speed the animal was moving, tracks may show great variability in their appearance.

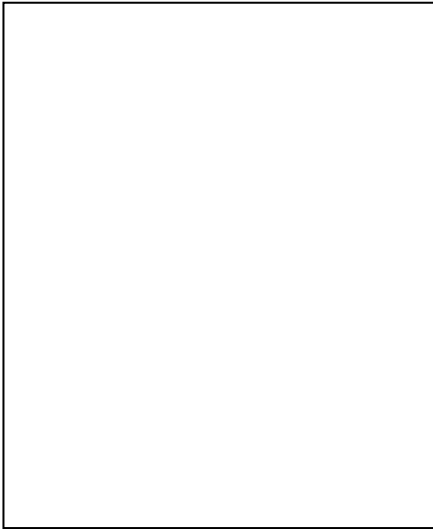
F - Front track
H - Hind track
T - Tail marks may be present

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION:
begins with conserving habitat!

17.



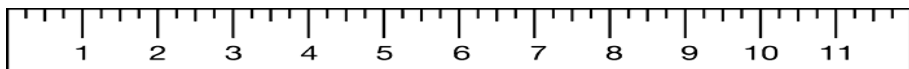
Mammals



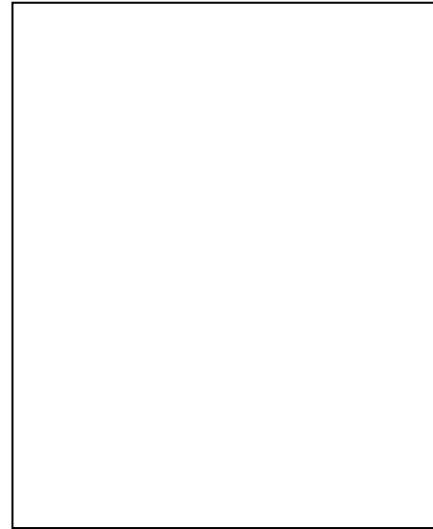
Name: _____
Date: _____
Weather: _____
Notes: _____

Use the space below to record any other mammals you have identified:

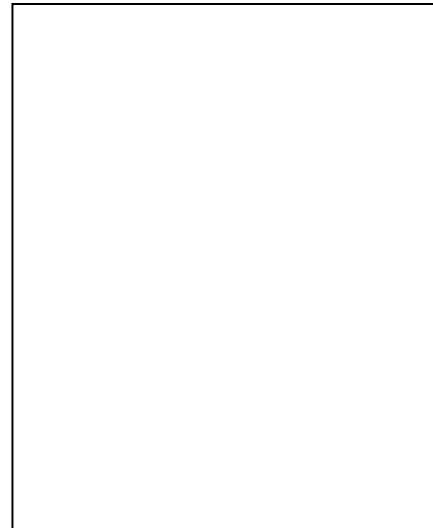
Date: _____ Species: _____
Date: _____ Species: _____
Date: _____ Species: _____
Date: _____ Species: _____
Date: _____ Species: _____
Date: _____ Species: _____
Date: _____ Species: _____



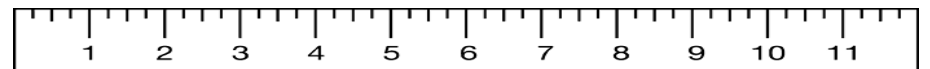
Trees (Deciduous)



Tree Name: _____
Date: _____
Weather: _____
Notes: _____



Tree Name: _____
Date: _____
Weather: _____
Notes: _____



Bushes and Shrubs



Plant Name: _____

Date: _____

Weather: _____

Notes: _____



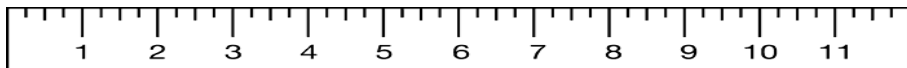
Plant Name: _____

Date: _____

Weather: _____

Notes: _____

10.



Birds

Most birds don't sit still long enough for you to draw them, so use this space to describe them then look in the field guide to help you identify the bird

Bird Name: _____

Date: _____

Weather: _____

Notes: _____

Bird Name: _____

Date: _____

Weather: _____

Notes: _____

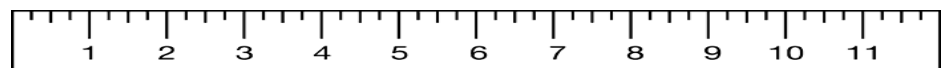
Bird Name: _____

Date: _____

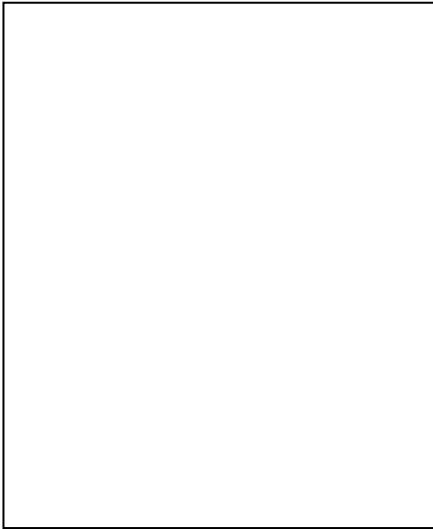
Weather: _____

Notes: _____

15.



Birds

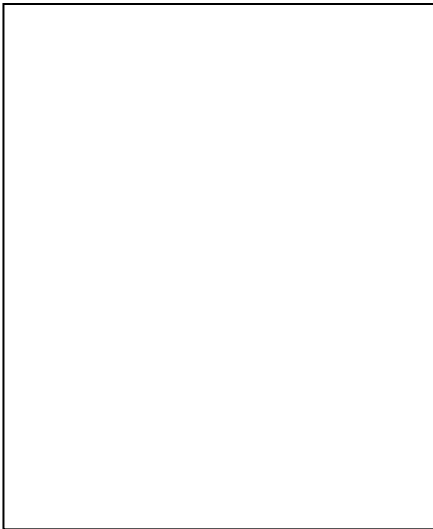


Bird Name: _____

Date: _____

Weather: _____

Notes: _____



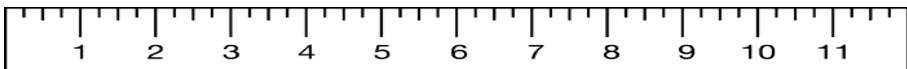
Bird Name: _____

Date: _____

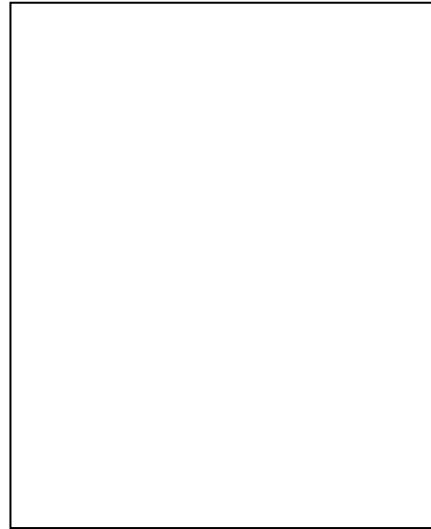
Weather: _____

Notes: _____

14.



Bushes and Shrubs

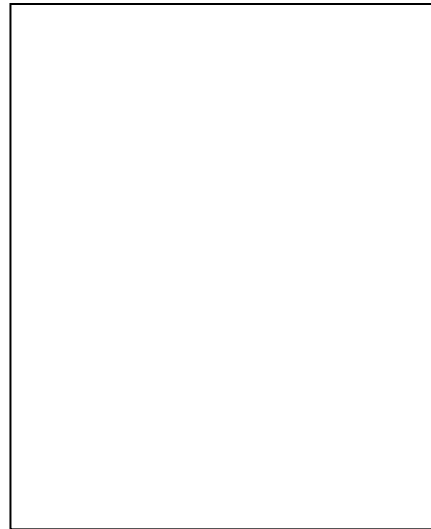


Plant Name: _____

Date: _____

Weather: _____

Notes: _____



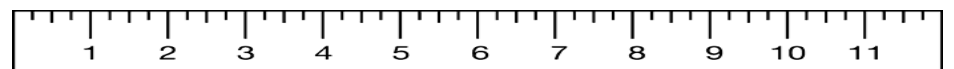
Plant Name: _____

Date: _____

Weather: _____

Notes: _____

11.



Fungi, Lichen and Mosses



Name: _____

Date: _____

Weather: _____

Notes: _____



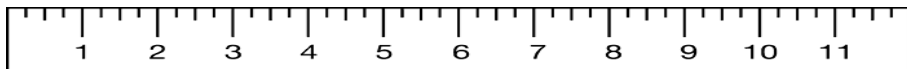
Name: _____

Date: _____

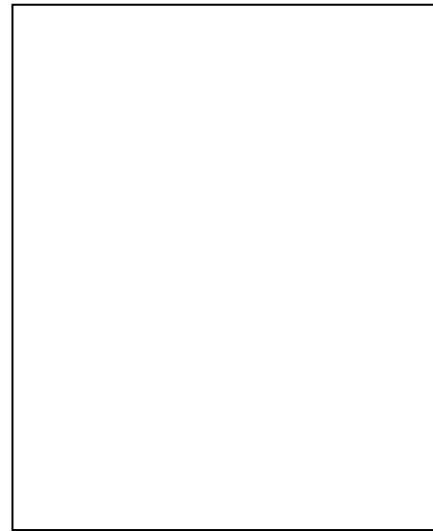
Weather: _____

Notes: _____

12.



Fungi, Lichen and Mosses

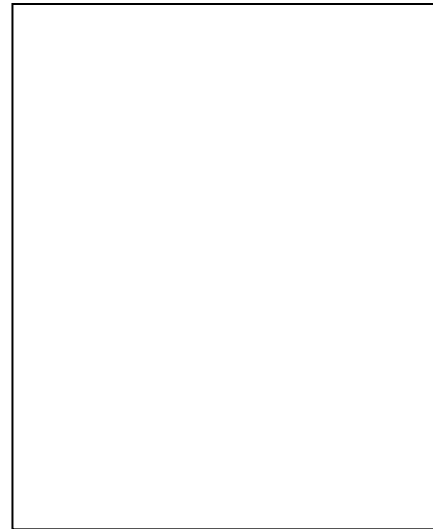


Name: _____

Date: _____

Weather: _____

Notes: _____



Name: _____

Date: _____

Weather: _____

Notes: _____

13.

