

## **Plant Diversity of CV**

**Today we are going to take a look at the different plants located at CV. When scientists study nature or make observations out in the field there are some procedures that they all should do. We are going to follow these procedures as well.**

- **Notes**

Every scientist takes notes while out in the field, but what do they write down? While they may write down different observations there is some information that they all will have in common. You will write them down on a separate sheet of paper, they are:

- The date
- The time (this can be a rough estimate)
- The location (state, city, school and general area on campus)
- The weather
- General observations about the area

- **Plant collection**

As a group you are going to collect 4 plants ( so 4 plants per group). Actually collecting specimens can be difficult. Scientists want their specimens to be as close to perfect after they have been collected as possible. This means, they can't be squished, broken, torn, etc. When you collect your plants try and be gentle.

**DO NOT collect grasses they are extremely hard to ID**

- **Plant ID**

Once you have taken your notes and collected your plants you need to figure out what type of plant you collected. Maybe you found a rare plant never seen before? To identify the plant use one of the books provided by your teacher and follow the instructions. If there are no instructions or you need help ask Mrs. G to help you. Note: I will not know all of your plants either

**You should write down the common name and the species name.**

- **Drawings**

Another practice that scientists do is to draw sketches of their specimens. Charles Darwin drew sketches of his specimens and Lewis and Clark drew some fantastic sketches during their exploration. The sketches should show details and all major visible aspects of the plant. You should have one drawing for each plant.

- **Plant Description**

Once you have identified your plant and made a sketch of it, you are going to write up a paragraph explaining what the plant is and the environment it likes to live in. Much of what you will need to know will be in the plant books, but you may also use the internet if you get stuck. Be specific! What type of Biome will you find this plant in, what temperatures does it require, is it native to Oregon, etc.

- **Plant uses/ Uniqueness**

The very last thing you are going to do is to write down whether this plant has or did have any use for humans or any unique properties. I know that many of the plants around this area are edible and eaten by Native Americans. If you can not find any uses for humans, then does this plant play any special part in history? Maybe we tried to eradicate it at one point in time? Maybe it is the only plant that certain frogs can live under? This is the paragraph that should tell the weird or cool facts about your plant. You will need to do research to cover this section.