

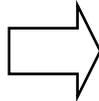


PLANT CLASSIFICATION

Name: _____

Explore your outdoor classroom, and look for a plant.

Draw and color
a picture of it.



In order to study the millions of different types of plants, we sort or classify them based on their similarities and differences. Use your answers to the questions below to help you classify the plant you found.

1. Some plants prefer to be in the sun while others prefer the shade.

Is this one in the sun?

Yes No



Hint: Most wildflowers need sunlight to grow.

Is this one in the shade?

Yes No



Hint: Most ferns and moss prefer the shade.

2. Is the plant shorter or taller than you? _____

Hint: Mature (adult) trees will be taller than you and most mature bushes will be close to your height or taller.

Most wildflowers, ferns, grass, and moss will be shorter than you.



3. Is the plant shorter or taller than your hand? _____

Hint: The only plants that will be shorter than your hand are grass and moss unless it is a seedling (baby plant).



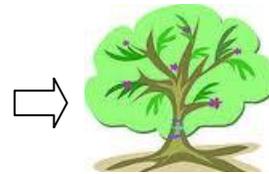
4. Is the plant shorter than one inch tall? Yes No

Hint: Moss is a flowerless plant that looks like a green fuzzy carpet on the ground where the soil is too shaded and too moist for grass to grow. Moss can also be found on rocks, fallen trees, or the side of tree trunks.



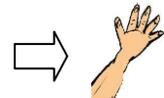
5. Does the plant have a woody trunk or stem? Yes No

Hint: Trees, bushes and vines have woody trunks and stems, but wildflowers, ferns and grass do not.



6. Is the trunk or main stem wider than your arm? Yes No

Hint: If it is wider than your arm then it is probably a tree or a very old vine.



7. Does the stem appear to climb or creep along a surface? Yes No

Hint: Vines often use trees, fences or the ground for support.



List three more questions that you could ask to help classify the plant you found:

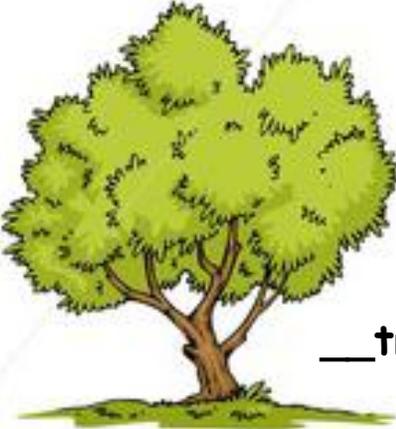
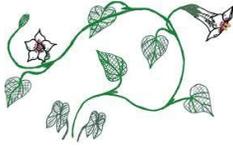
1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



What type of plant do you think it is?

 <p>___tree</p>	 <p>___bush</p>	 <p>___vine</p>
	 <p>___wildflower</p>	 <p>___fern</p>
	 <p>___grass</p>	 <p>___moss</p>



Use a field guide such as the *National Audubon Society Guide to the Southeastern States* or the internet to help you identify the plant.



Write a paragraph identifying and describing your plant:



Alabama Course of Study Objective Correlations for 3rd Grade

- Language Arts:** 8.) Use text features to guide interpretation of expository texts, including italics, headings, maps, and charts.
 9.) Compose descriptive texts using sensory details and vivid language; compose expository texts using appropriate sequencing of ideas; and use complete sentences, varied sentence structure, and appropriate transition words.
 12.) Demonstrate retrieval skills needed to research a topic by formulating questions based on a topic and using appropriate reference materials.
 13.) Demonstrate the ability to follow multistep oral directions.

Math: 19.) Generate measurement data by measuring lengths using rulers marked with halves and fourths of an inch.

- Science:** 7.) Describe the life cycle of plants; and classify plants according to their features.
 10.) Determine habitat conditions that support plant growth and survival.

