



STAY CONNECTED.

STAY CURIOUS.

Plant Diversity Survey

Scientists make observations every day and use words or drawings to document their discoveries. They can count the number of plants in an area to see if that environment is healthy. Discover how many plants can grow in a small area with this experiment.

You'll need:

- Hula hoop or a three-foot-long piece of string tied in a circle
- Paper
- Pencil
- Natural area: backyard, local park, forest, etc.

What to do:

1. Toss the hula hoop or lay down the string in a natural area.
2. Looking down, count how many different plants you can see – use their leaf shapes or colors to tell them apart. Make a few sketches of the plants you observed.
3. Stand or lay down with your head in the circle and look up. Count how many plants are growing over your circle.
4. Try in a few different areas. Were the numbers different or similar? Why do you think some places might have more plants than others?

