Plant Project Outline & Guide

1. Purpose – *Learn about common plant species of our area, while learning and applying collecting methods, observations, photography, and data collecting to complete a long term project.*
2. Important Dates
	1. 2nd Wednesday in October
	2. Labs not completed by the due date will be reduced 10% for every class period not turned in.
3. Requirements
	1. Each plant must be attached to sheet of stock paper. With hot glue or some other adhesive **approved by your instructor**.
	2. On the front you must fill out the label shown and it needs to be placed on the front of each plant sheet.
	3. On the back you should have label including:
		1. *Species Common and Scientific name*
		2. *Collection date*
		3. *Collector*
4. Identification:
	1. Use plant identification books or internet.
	2. Weeds of the Great Plains.
	3. You can also ask individuals like farmers or others that might know common names, but make sure to check information.
5. Data collection
	1. Each of following data must be collected and placed somewhere in your field notebook.
		1. *Species common name and scientific name*
		2. *Description of habitat found and plant*
		3. *Location (GPS & Closest town, County,& State)*
		4. *Drawing (simple drawing)*
		5. *Reference Identification (Used to identify plant.)*
6. Collecting
	1. Make plans and timeline of how you are going to complete the lab. Start early that way you are not rushed with a deadline.
	2. Pay attention to in class demonstrations on how to collect and mount plants on boards.
	3. Know where all materials are located to complete the lab in a timely manner.
	4. Don’t wait till it starts to freeze.
	5. There is a lot to do in this lab. Collecting the plants is just one small part.
7. Scoring
	1. Total points 216 points
	2. 12 plants must be collected. Each plant can score up to 18 points.
	3. On the right is diagram showing the scoring rubric that is used for each of the 12 plants.
	4. Points can be earned with each plant that contain each of following
		1. *Plant (4 Excellent/Good/Fair/Poor)*
		2. *Label on front (2 Complete/Incomplete)*
		3. *Label on back (2 Complete/Incomplete)*
		4. *Species common & scientific names (2 Complete/Incomplete)*
		5. *Location (2 Complete/Incomplete)*
		6. *Habitat description (2 Complete/Incomplete)*
		7. *Drawings (2 Complete/Incomplete)*
		8. *Photographs(2 Complete/Incomplete)*
		9. *Reference (2 Complete/Incomplete)*
8. *Collection Example:*

*Poster board Front*

* 1. *Here is an example of back and front of completed plant.*
	2. *Notes:*
		1. *Scientific names should always be underlined.*
		2. *Front should include all the things shown here.*
		3. *Month should always go first in roman numeral, date, and then year.*
		4. *It should be in your best penmanship and in pen. You can also type label see your instructor for template.*
		5. *Always use metric system.*



 *Field Notebook*

*Taraxacum officinale “Dandelion” #1*

*Gravel driveway along mowed grass yard*

*Plant was low on the ground with flower stems being long and upright.*

*Thayer County, NE (40° 10’56 N 97°41’23 W)*

*IX/9/2012*

 *Poster Board Back*

*Taraxacum officinale “Dandelion”*

*IX/9/2012*

*Shannon LeFave*

*Back*