What Is It??
Identifying Native Plants Presentation

1. What You Need:
Gather flower, leaves; fruits and roots if possible
Bag with wet paper towel in it

Get a good book: <Show them my books – see list below>
ID by flower color
Find a match, then read the description for verification
Read the family description for the flower info (Plants of AZ)
Dichotomous key (Arizona Flora; Field Guide to Rocky Mtn. Wildflowers)

Difference between common names and scientific names.

Read: A plant description from two different books.

A hand lens/loupe is often helpful.

2. Basic Plant Anatomy, Descriptors and Habitats
Describe the parts of a plant that are useful/needed for correct identification.
Flowers are the most definitive, usually (least variable environmentally)

<Review handout/flipchart of basic plant parts>

Review the various descriptors:<from handout>:
Flowering season is important too

Use the Glossary in the plant ID books for technical terms.

Plant Habitats
Community
Elevation
Soils
3. Resources <Have on a flip chart or bring all books>

Books (from beginning of presentation)


Plant identification websites: <on flipchart>

- [http://cals.arizona.edu/yavapaiplants/](http://cals.arizona.edu/yavapaiplants/) (Yavapai County Extension)

Master Gardener offices: <on flipchart>

Camp Verde:

- (928) 554-8992 (MG desk)
- [VerdeValleyMG@gmail.com](mailto:VerdeValleyMG@gmail.com)
- 2830 N. Commonwealth Drive
- Camp Verde, CA

Prescott:

- (928) 445-6590 extension 222
- [PrescottMG@gmail.com](mailto:PrescottMG@gmail.com)
- 640 Rodeo Drive, Bldg C
- Prescott, AZ  86305

Home Gardening website: <on flipchart>

- [http://extension.arizona.edu/yavapai-gardening](http://extension.arizona.edu/yavapai-gardening)
Materials:

Handouts
Color photos (laminated)
Bag (ziplock) with wet paper towel in it
Hand lens
Plant ID books
Flip chart + pens + tape
Websites and MG office locations on flip chart

Various plant parts showing different kinds of leaves, flowers, arrangements
(natives, if possible)
Grass plant showing fibrous roots
Herb with tap root
Chive plant with bulb
Sunflower-type plant (desert marigold from the Valley?)
Rose flower

For talks given to adults, U of A requests that we use the sign-in sheet for
Affirmative Action tracking; that sheet is on our website.