

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)

Plants of Arizona. Epple, 1995.

Arizona Flora, Second Edition. Kearney & Peebles. 1960

Flowers of the Southwest Deserts. Dodge & Janish, 1985.

Flowers of the Southwest Mountains. Arnberger & Janish, 1982.

Shrubs and Trees of the Southwest Uplands. Elmore & Janish, 1976.

100 roadside Wildflowers of Southwest Woodlands. Bowers, 1987.

A Field Guide to Rocky Mountain Wildflowers. Craighead, Craighead & Davis, 1963.

Plant identification websites: <on flipchart>

<http://cals.arizona.edu/yavapaiplants/> (Yavapai County Extension)

<http://www.naturesongs.com/vvplants/>

<http://www.arborday.org/trees/whattree/>

Master Gardener offices: <on flipchart>

Camp Verde:

(928) 554-8992 (MG desk)

VerdeValleyMG@gmail.com

2830 N. Commonwealth Drive

Camp Verde, CA

Prescott:

(928) 445-6590 extension 222

PrescottMG@gmail.com

640 Rodeo Drive, Bldg C

Prescott, AZ 86305

Home Gardening website: <on flipchart>

<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.