

Name: _____

My Grassland Comparison

Directions: Gently throw a hula hoop (or another item of similar size and shape) into your lawn. Look closely at what plant/animal life lands inside your circle.

Draw the plants & animals within your hula hoop in your lawn.

Answer the following questions about your lawn findings:

1. How many different plant species did you find? _____

2. How many different animal species did you find? _____

3. Describe what you saw: (Examples: mostly red and black beetles; 10 insects, 2 arachnids, 1 centipede; covered all in grass—no other plants, etc.)

Now move to a prairie (such as at the Kansas Museum of History trails) or another prairie close to your home. Repeat the same process!

Draw the plants & animals within your hula hoop in the prairie.

Answer the following questions about your prairie findings:

1. How many different plant species did you find? _____
2. How many different animal species did you find? _____
3. Describe what you saw: _____

4. What similarities or differences did you observe between the two grassy areas?

5. Which had more plant and animal life—your lawn or a prairie? Why do you think that is? _____