

Popoia Plant Survey Instructions

1. Students will be divided into groups of 2 or 3 students. Each group will have a transect line, a quadrat, a plant ID guide and the following datasheet on a clipboard.
2. Have your group find the chopstick with orange yarn on it that is labeled with their Group #. This will be the start of their transect line.
3. Have the team lay out the transect line to 10 meters. Designate one group member as the initial data recorder; the other members will be plant ID experts.
4. Have your group record their group # on their data sheet, and describe the location of their transect.
4. In the data table on their data sheet, your group will be recording the plant species within their quadrat at every meter along the transect. The quadrat should be placed so that the lower left corner is at the meter mark on the transect.
5. Your group will need to record the plant species in their quadrat listed in order from most common species in the quadrat to least common species in the quadrat. To facilitate this, have them locate the most common species first, ID it, and then record it on their data sheet. Choose the next most common species, and continue until all species in the quadrat are identified. Help your group members make good observations to aid in their plant IDs. If your group can't ID a species, you can either 1) seek help, 2) take your best guess, or 3) record it as "other" if it is not on the guide (your group can describe it if they wish).
6. Have your group repeat the above procedure every meter along the transect line. You can have your kids switch tasks so they all get a chance to record. The more quadrats the kids do, the better, but don't worry if they only get through a couple of them.
7. Have your group answer the questions on the back of their data sheet.

Popoia Plant Survey Data Sheet

Plant Transect # _____

1) Describe the location of your transect. For example, "Transect is located at the southwest end of the island near the beach area."

2) Using your plant field guide and the data sheet below, record the species of plants in your quadrat at each meter along your transect line. Use the species numbers from your field guides to record your species. List the species in order from most common species within the quadrat to least common species within the quadrat.

Distance Along Transect (meters)	Plant Species in Quadrat (in order from most to least common)
Example	3, 1, 9
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	

Popoia Plant Survey

Names _____

Classroom _____

Distance Along Transect (meters)	Plant Species in Quadrat (in order from most to least common)
8	
9	
10	

3) How are the conditions at Popoia Island different from the conditions at Kanewai Field? Discuss with your group and record three observations below.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

4) How are the plants on Popoia Island different from those at Kanewai Field? Discuss with your group and record three observations below.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.