

**Science 10
Brightwater Experience
Field Journal**

Name: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____

Weather: _____

As we discussed in class, you will be making observations and documenting evidence while at Brightwater to help you better understand the prairie eco-region of Saskatchewan. During the experience, keep in mind the inquiry questions we developed as a class and record the information you discover during the activities you participate in throughout the day. Biologist, ecologist, and scientist often use both written descriptions, labelled drawings, digital photographs and GPS coordinates when recording observations in and about nature. Remember to be respectful of the environment and leave only a minimal footprint and soundprint on the landscape.

1. Describe several general observations of the Brightwater landscape. Describe the evidence you found and where you found the evidence of the soil characteristics of this area.

2. Choose one plant in the area and record qualitative and quantitative observations of its structural features for identification. (Example: red woody stem with small thorns and several smaller branches growing from the main stem, the leaves are arranged alternately and there are pink flowers,). Make a sketch of the plant and label it to add to your descriptions. Inquire about the ethno-botany of the plant and add the information to your illustration.

3. Describe the evidence you found of a native prairie animal and where you found it. You could also make a sketch of the evidence. What information about the animal can you learn from the evidence you discovered?

4. List 3 distinctly different habitats that cover a fairly large areas within Brightwater. Add to your list, several identifying features of each that make them distinctly different from one another. If you had to give each area a descriptive name, what would you call each area? Record observations of any evident influence of human activity on each of the areas.

5. List one or more observations about the natural environment at Brightwater from each of the 4 senses (hear, touch, smell, and see). Based on your experiences today and what you already knew about the prairie eco-region, what is native prairie? Write a descriptive paragraph and/or draw a labelled diagram to help you communicate your knowledge and understanding of native prairie.

