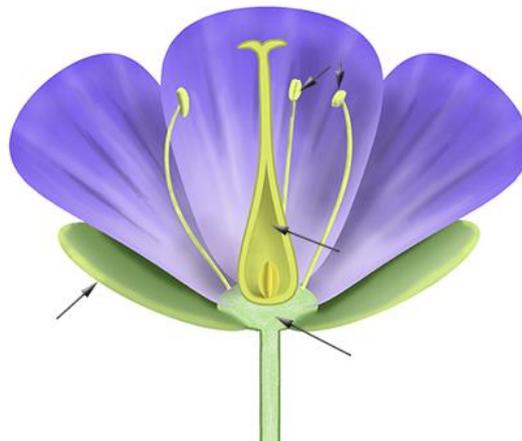


# Natural History – Workbook

## Plants

Mark the following parts of the flower on the image:

*stamen, receptacle, petal, sepal, pistil*



How do plants reproduce?

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How do plants colonize new areas?

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Why are insects interested in plants?

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Pick one of the plants you can find in the forest and answer a couple of questions, then draw an image or glue an image of it onto your worksheet.

The name of my plant: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of the plant:

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When does it flower?

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What is its habitat?

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Is the plant common or rare?

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Has the plant been used for cooking? How?

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Does the plant have medicinal power? What?

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Other interesting things about the plant:

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## The Forest



Have the book *Flowering plants and ferns of Iceland* and fill in the empty areas of the sheet below with the type of tree you feel fits the description.

*pine, black cottonwood, sitka spruce, downy birch (European white birch) and larch*

Type	Description	Height	Propagation	Family
	A fair-green coniferae with a coarse greyish brown bark. Needles are of a beautiful green colour, soft and bunched together.	7-15 m	Imported plant, few locations, Southern, Eastern and Northern parts of Iceland	Pinaceae
	Evergreen coniferae with grey or greyish brown bark. Needles are bunched together in pairs, 4-10 cm long.	3-15 m	Imported plant, several locations all over Iceland.	Pinaceae
	A tree or bush with light-greyish brown or reddish brown bark which can be peeled off in sheets. Flowers unisexual in catkins. Leaves coarsely dentate, egg-shaped, pinnate but acuminate, 2-5 cm long.	1-12 m	Common all over Iceland.	Genus Betula
	Evergreen, conic, coniferae with coarse greyish brown bark. Needles are green or blue-green, firm and pointy, 12-25 mm long.	10-25 m	Imported plant, several locations in Southern and South-Western Iceland.	Pinaceae
	Large tree. Bark is greyish brown but the leaves are beautifully green and gleaming. 8-18 cm long and often aromatic.	5-20 m	Imported plant, several locations, especially in South-Western and Northern Iceland.	Salicaceae

What is the forest's highest tree and how old is it?

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How can you know how old trees can become?

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Examine the forest bottom; how many kinds of different organisms can you find?  
Write down the species you are able to find.

Plants	Small creatures	Fungi and Lichen	Other



Draw an image of a food chain in the forest near Kirkjubæjarklaustur.

## Birds

What are the names of the birds in the following images? Write their English and Latin names.



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Choose one of the birds and answer the following questions. Then do a short presentation about the bird for the other members of your group.

The name of my bird: \_\_\_\_\_

Length: \_\_\_\_\_ Weight: \_\_\_\_\_ Wingspan: \_\_\_\_\_

Appearance: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Food: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Number of eggs: \_\_\_\_\_

Incubation: \_\_\_\_\_ days

Nesting season: \_\_\_\_\_

Other interesting things about the bird:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



Work in pairs and spread out throughout the forest. Find a good place to sit down and watch the birds around you. Write down in the table below the birds you see or hear:

	Seen	Heard
Redwing		
White Wagtail		
Rock Ptarmigan		
Eurasian Oystercatcher		
Northern Wheatear		
Winter Wren		
Eurasian Oystercatcher		
Eurasian Golden Plover		
Common Snipe		
Mallard		
Whimbrel		
Whooper Swan		
Pink-footed Goose		
Other birds, which?		

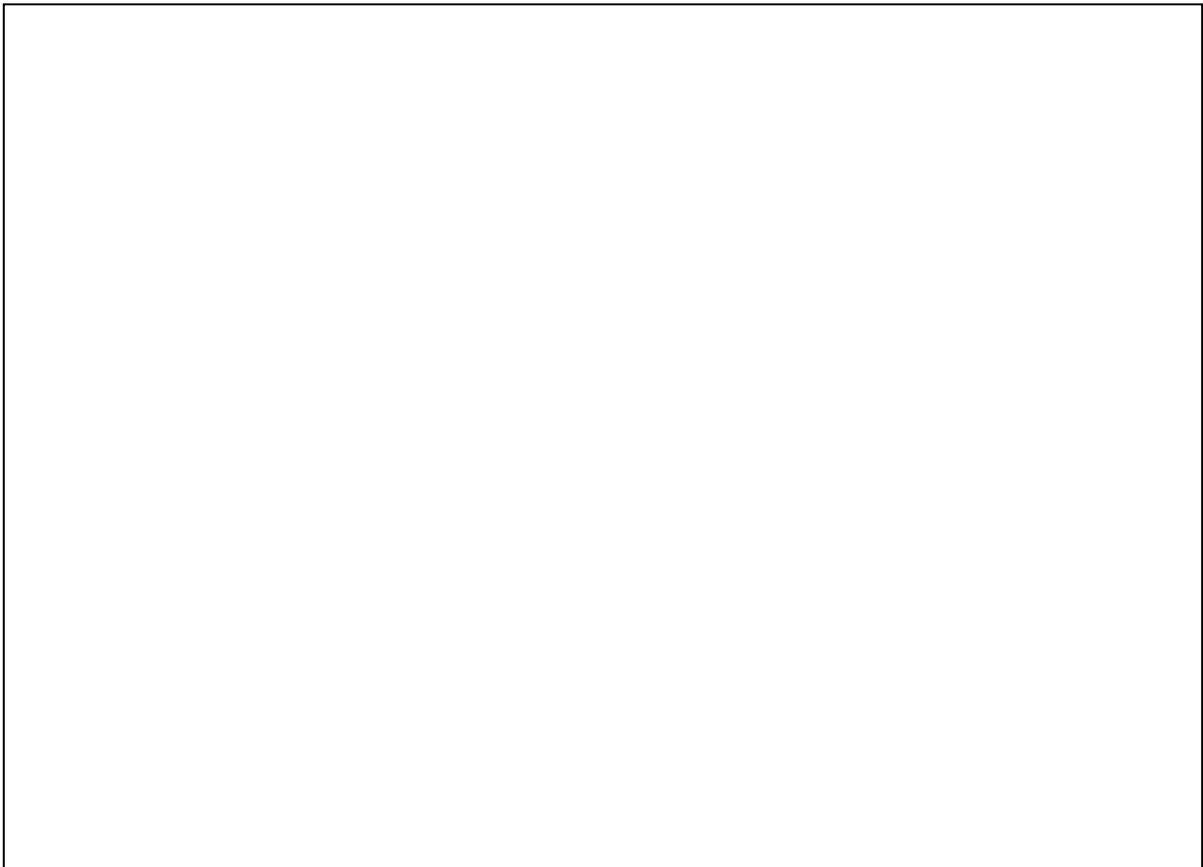
## Sea Trout

The Brown Trout (*Salmo trutta*) either spends all its life in fresh water or migrates to the oceans after living in rivers for a couple of years as spawn (Sea Trout).



The Sea Trout (*Salmo trutta trutta*) spawns in rivers, just like salmon. The roe hatch in the river and the young fish spend the first years of their lives there. At the age of 2-5 years the Sea Trout reaches more than 10 cm in length and migrates into the oceans in the springtime. The fish returns after one year or more to the rivers in late summer or during the fall in order to spawn and stay there during winter. The Sea Trout can often return to the sea again and usually spawns once a year. It is usual for large Sea Trout to have migrated many times back and forth between river and ocean.

**Draw a simple image of the life cycle of a Sea Trout, based on the text above.**



## Soil erosion

What is soil erosion and what causes it?

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How can you prevent soil erosion? Discuss with your whole group.

Draw an image below which you feel describes the erosion of soil and vegetation.

