

BILB102: Diversity Log Guidelines

One of the biggest goals of the lab this semester is for you to become more familiar with the diversity of eukaryotes. To this end, you will keep a log of all the species of plants, animals, and fungi that you come across this semester.

For each species observed, you will need to include:

- The Linnean Classification (as completely as you can from Kingdom down to Species – this will be difficult for the fungi, so only include up to the classification you are sure of)
- The common name
- Captive/cultivated/domesticated status (wild or captive/cultivated/domesticated)
- Native status (native or non-native)
- Location where it was observed (the more specific the better)
- Time when it was observed (date and time of day)
- Notes on the observation (for animals this can include its behaviour, for plants this can include its flowering status, and for fungi this can include the part of the fungus you observed)
- Supporting documentation (photos or drawings)

An excel document with an example entry can be found on Moodle. Your report will be graded out of 100 points on the following criteria:

- 25 pts – Number of observations
 - You must have a minimum of 16 plants, 20 animals, and 4 fungi to receive at least 20 pts – the remaining 5 pts will be awarded on a sliding scale based on how many additional observations are included.
- 10 pts – Diversity of observations
 - You will receive more points if you include observations from across the major groups of organisms (e.g. if your animal observations are not all vertebrates)
- 5 pts – Predominance of wild vs. captive observations
 - This will be calculated as the proportion of wild vs. captive/cultivated/domesticated observations, i.e. you will receive more points if you observe animals and plants that are not kept in a zoo or garden or home
- 10 pts – Accuracy of classification
 - This will be calculated as the proportion of correct classifications, i.e. you will receive more points for including the correct classifications
- 5 pts – Level of classification
 - You will receive more points if you can be specific in the classification, i.e. if you identify organisms to the Species level as opposed to the Family level, which is the minimum level to be included in your list for animals and plants, or lineage for fungi
- 25 pts – Quality of notes (how many details did you include)
 - You will receive more points for including details about your observation, including what helped you to identify the organism
- 20 pts – Quality of supporting documentation
 - Each observation should be accompanied by a photo or drawing to provide evidence that you observed what you say you observed at the time and place you specified. Photographs are the best evidence, but you can also include a drawing, a text description, a sound recording, etc. Keep your supporting documents in a separate word or powerpoint file. You must have supporting documentation for each observation, although it is ok to have different types of documentation for different observations.

Your completed log and supporting documents are due at the end of the semester on Apr 17th by 11:59pm.