



Native vs. Invasive Plants

Define what a native plant is:

Can you name one? _____

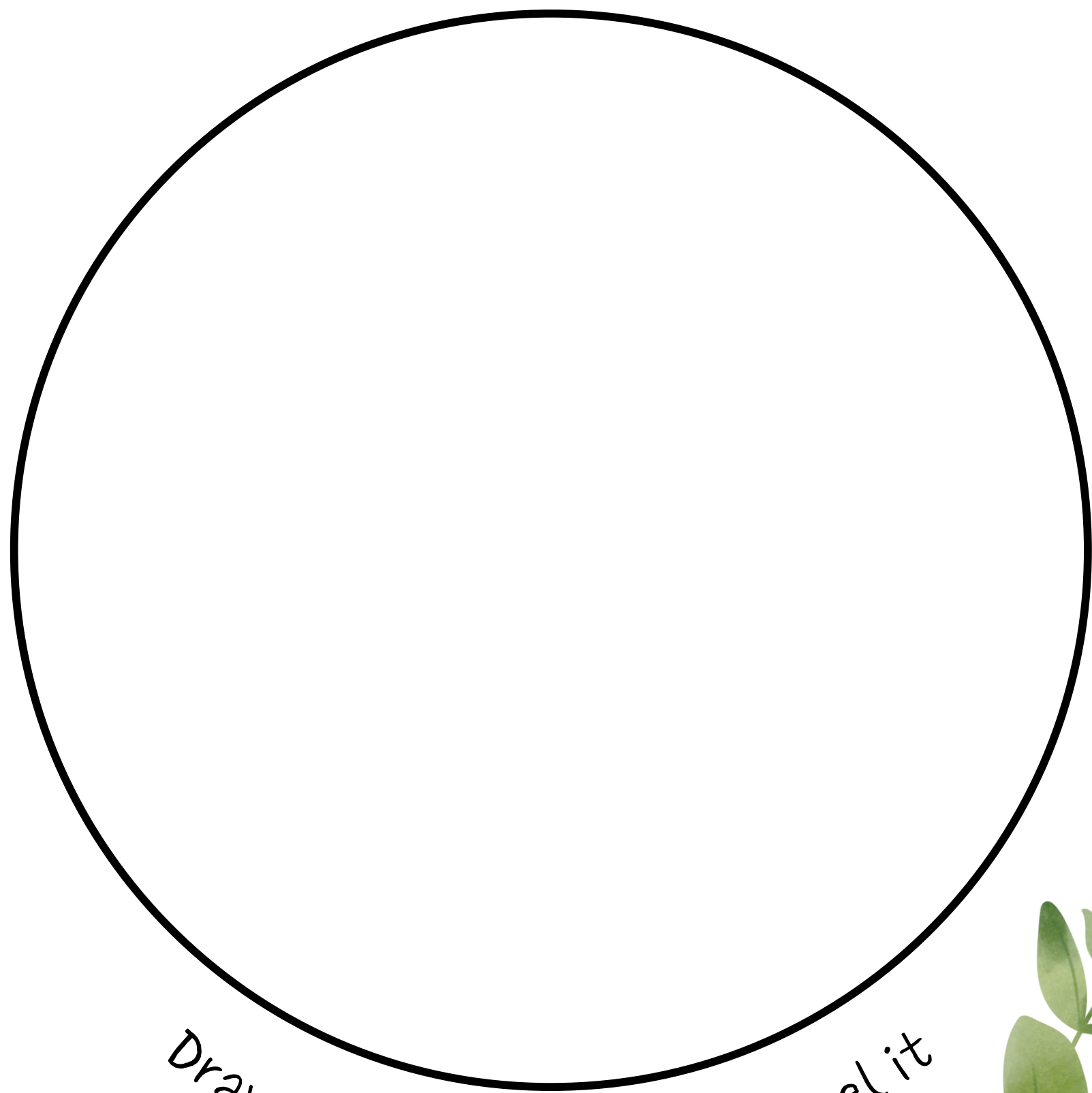
Define what an invasive plant is:

Can you name one? _____

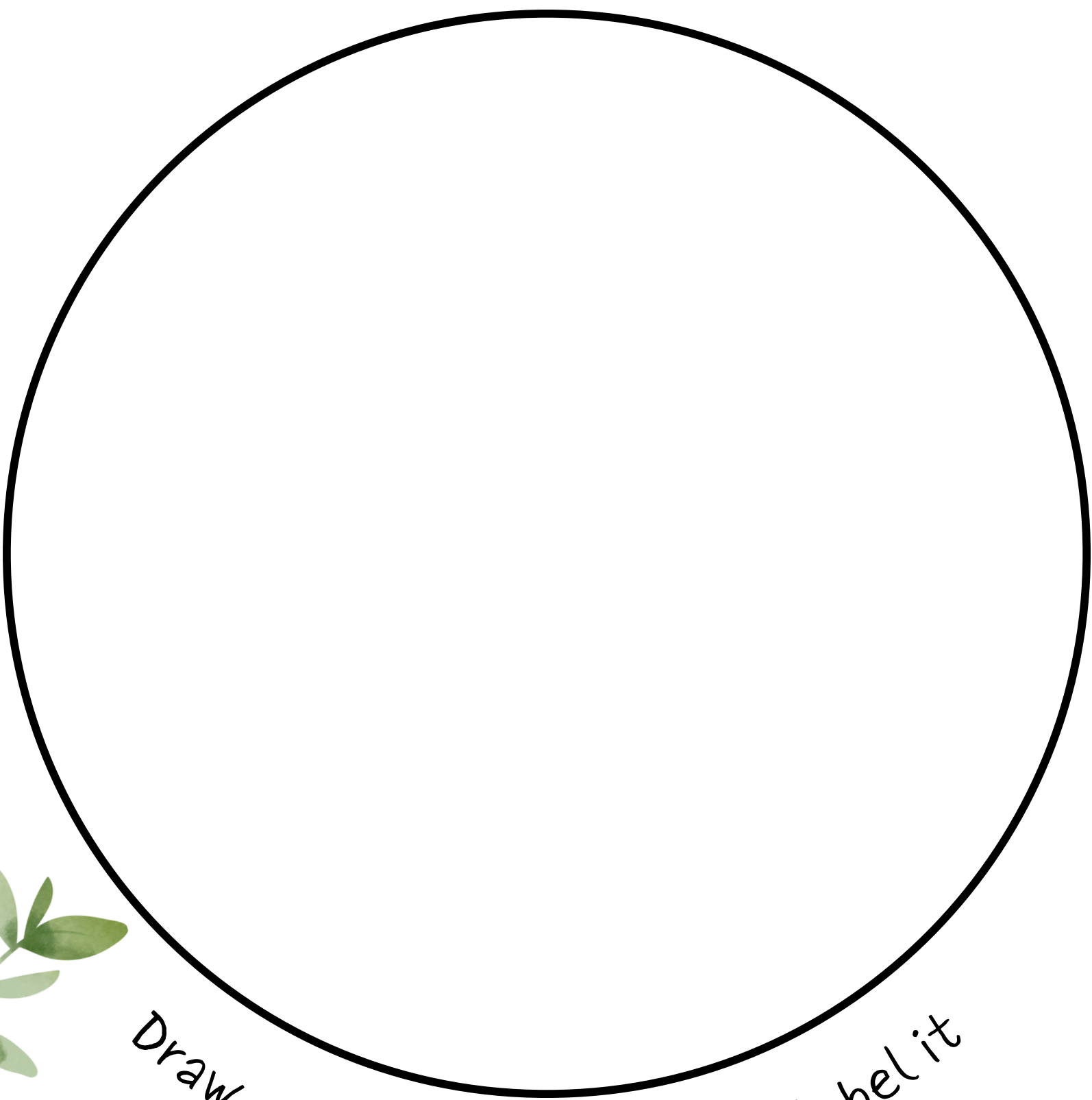
What makes one plant thrive over the other?

Do you think native plants are endangered here in BC? Please explain your thinking...

Do you think native plants are low maintenance compared to invasive plants? Please explain your thinking...



Draw a native plant and label it










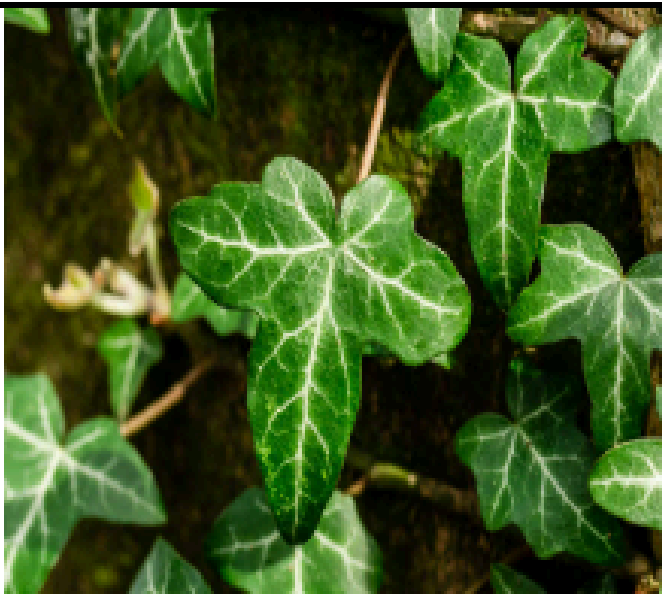
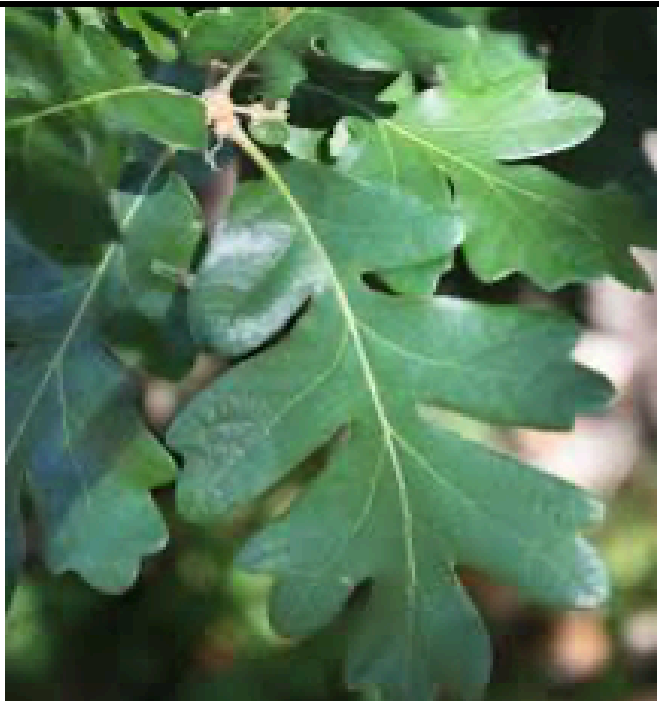

Draw an invasive plant and label it



Native vs. Invasive Plants Scavenger Hunt

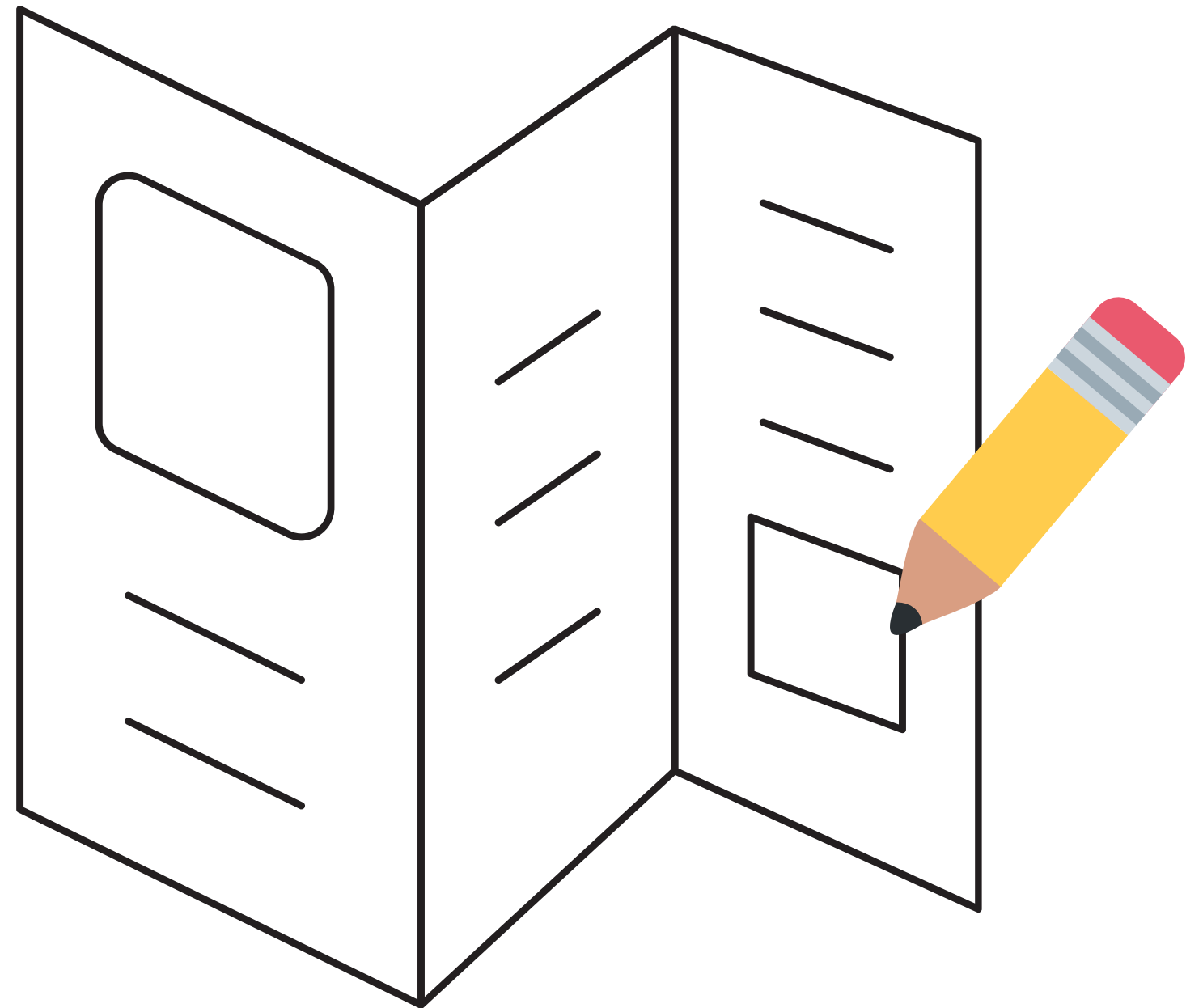
As you find each plant, be sure to check it off on your scavenger hunt sheet. For each plant, list three distinct characteristics that help identify it. Before your time is up, make sure to determine which plants are native and which are invasive on your list.

Remember: Only look with your eyes, no touching the plants

Cedar Tree		Dandelions	
Fir Tree		Black Berry Bush	
Pine Tree		Scottish Broom	
Sword/Deer Fern		English Ivy	
Gary Oak Tree		Holly	

Native vs. Invasive Plants Brochure Assignment

In this assignment, you will be creating two brochures. One for native plants and one for invasive plants. Here is all the criteria required for your final assignment.



Brochure 1: Native Plant

Front Page:

- Give your brochure a creative title
- Include a hand-drawn picture of your native plant
- Make sure the picture is coloured in

Inside Pages (Information Sections):

- Keep your brochure organized.
- Each section should have a clear title that tells what the section is about
- Write in complete sentences using proper grammar
- Make sure your writing is neat and easy to read
- Include at least one drawing that connects to a section of your information

Information to include inside:

1: What is this plant?

- Introduce the plant you chose

2: Features of the plant

- Describe what the plant looks like (such as size, shape, leaves, flowers, etc.)

3: Where can you find it?

- Explain the environments or locations where this plant naturally grows

4: How was this plant used by Indigenous People?

- Was it used for medicine?
- Was it used for food?
- Was it used for shelter or transportation?
- Any other traditional uses?

5: This plant today

- Is the plant still common or is it endangered/extinct?
- Do people still use it today?
- Is it used only by Indigenous communities for special purposes?

6: Fun facts

- Share any interesting or unusual facts about the plant

Back Page:

- Write your name



Brochure 2: Invasive Plant

Front Page:

- Give your brochure a creative title
- Include a hand-drawn picture of your invasive plant
- Make sure the picture is coloured in

Inside Pages (Information Sections):

- Keep your brochure organized
- Each section should have a clear title
- Use complete sentences and proper grammar
- Make sure your writing is neat
- Include at least one drawing that connects to the information inside

Information to include inside:

1: What is this plant?

- Introduce the invasive plant you chose

2: Features of the plant

- Describe what the plant looks like

Where can you find it?

- Explain where this plant grows in Canada or your area

How was this plant brought to Canada?

- Who brought it?
- How did it get here?
- Was it brought on purpose or by accident?

Does it harm other plants?

- Does it spread quickly or take over ecosystems?
- Does it kill or replace native plants?

This plant today

- Is it still very common?
- Is it used by people today or just decorative?

Fun facts

- Share anything interesting or surprising about the plan

Back Page:

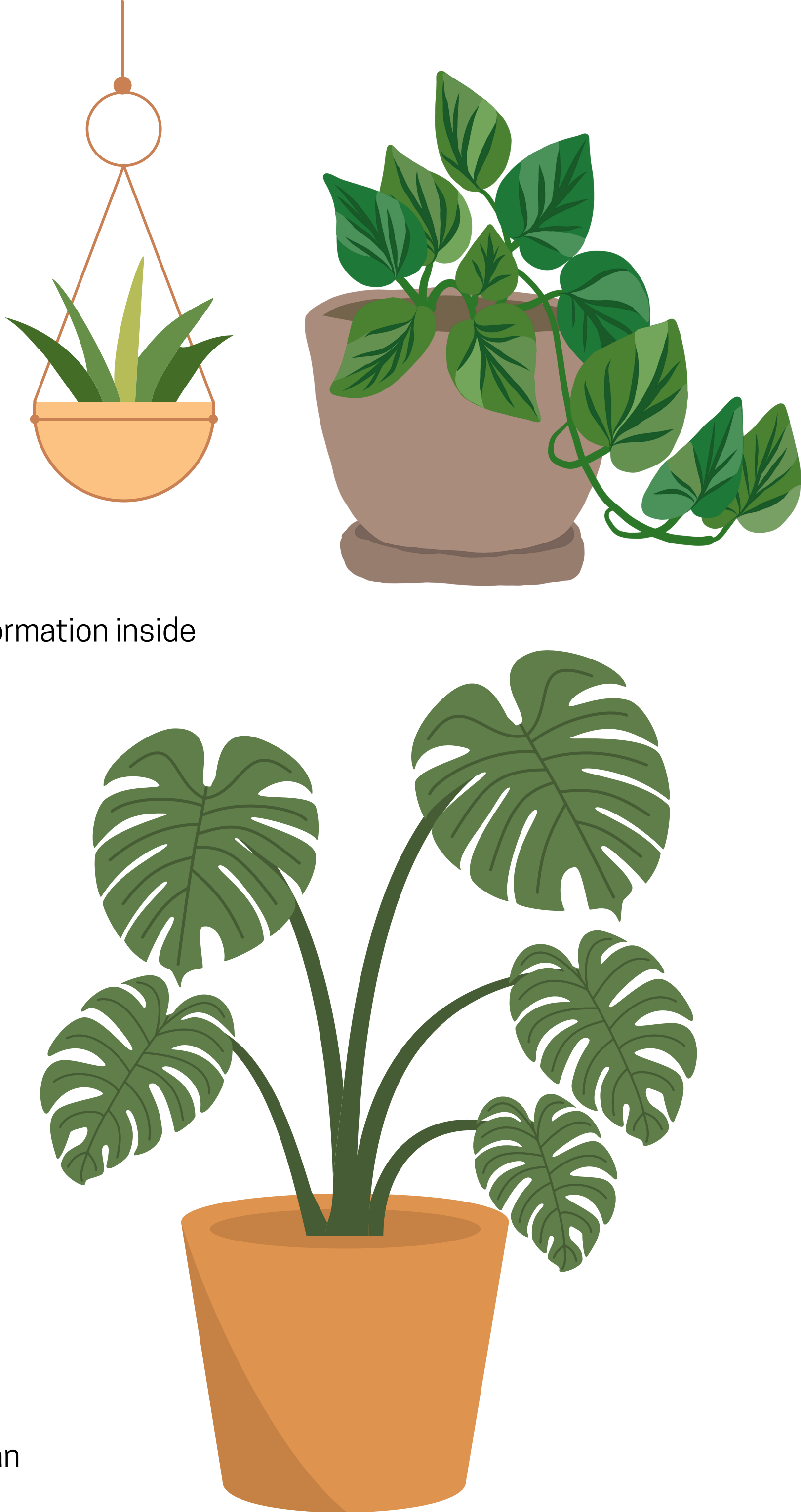
Write your name

As you work on your brochures, use the checklist to keep track of what you've completed. This will help you stay organized and make sure you include everything that's needed.

Have an idea you want to add? Want to try something different for your project? Come talk to me! I'd love to hear your thoughts and help you bring your ideas to life.

Be creative, do your best work, and have fun exploring your plants!

Due Date: _____



Native vs. Invasive Plants

Ideas for teachers...

Science/Biology:

- Compare and contrast native and invasive plant adaptations.
- Study ecosystems and how invasive species impact biodiversity.
- Conduct a local plant identification walk or scavenger hunt.
- Investigate how invasive plants affect soil, water, and wildlife.
- Set up a classroom experiment to test growth rates of different plant types.

Social Studies/Indigenous Studies:

- Explore traditional Indigenous uses of native plants for food, medicine, and tools.
- Discuss the cultural importance of certain native plants to local Indigenous communities.
- Examine how colonization contributed to the introduction of invasive species.
- Connect invasive species to historical trade, migration, and agriculture.

Geography/Environmental Studies:

- Map where native and invasive plants are found in your local area or province.
- Discuss environmental consequences of invasive plant spread in different regions.
- Study how climate change might influence plant distribution and invasiveness.

Language Arts:

- Have students write informative brochures, reports, or persuasive essays on plant conservation.
- Create fictional stories or journals from the perspective of a native or invasive plant.
- Research and present plant profiles (with characteristics, habitat, and impact).

Art:

- Draw or paint native and invasive plants.
- Create a "plant ID" book with hand-drawn illustrations and facts.
- Design awareness posters about protecting native plants or controlling invasive ones.

Math:

- Graph the growth of plant populations over time.
- Calculate the area affected by invasive plant spread using real-world data.
- Use ratios or percentages to show the proportion of native vs. invasive species in a habitat.

Outdoor/Hands-On Learning:

- Organize a school or community invasive species removal day.
- Visit a local nature reserve, Indigenous garden, or botanical garden.
- Start a native plant garden at school to promote local biodiversity.
- Play the drama game “murder mystery” to demonstrate how invasive plants can take over native ones so fast and sneaky.

Cross-Curricular Projects:

- Host a classroom or school-wide "Plant Expo" showcasing student research on native and invasive plants.
- Create a podcast or video project interviewing local experts or Indigenous knowledge keepers.
- Partner with environmental organizations for guest speakers, activities, or citizen science projects.

