**General Plant Cheat Sheet for the Novice Botanist 2022 Hazel Basemore**

**Student Tools for Learning:**

* Help each other out/quiz each other
* Observe detail of plant and flower structure
* Knowing names of flowers is less important than knowing characteristics of plant family
* Ask questions, take notes, sketch, or take photos
* Participate in garden workdays at the Botanical and at Flour Bluff Intermediate School
* Try to name the plant and family (as you learn them) in your yard, neighborhood, or walks

**Plant Families for the day:**

* Asteraceae (Sunflower Family)
* Euphorbiaceae (Spurge Family)
* Lamiaceae (Mint Family)
* Fabaceae (Pea Family)
* Solanaceae (Nightshade Family)

**Terminology:**

Male flower part – “stay men” -**Stamen** composed of anther and filament

Female flower part – “pistol packing mama” – **Pistil** composed of stigma, style, and ovary

**Tepal and perianth** are the same

**Tepal** used when sepal and petals are indistinguishable – serve same role as sepals and petals- house flower parts

**Perianth** – non-reproductive part of flower; holds reproductive parts

All **m**ints (Lamiaceae) and **m**ustards (Brassicaceae) are edible: M & M’s are edible

Flower parts labeled from bottom to top sepals, petals, pistol, and stamen

**Bract** is a modified or specialized leaf, especially one associated with a reproductive structure such as a flower, inflorescence axis or cone scale. Bracts are often different from foliage leaves. They may be smaller, larger, or of a different color, shape , or texture.

**Monocot vs dicot:**

* Monocotyledon isa flowering plant with an embryo that bears a single cotyledon (seed leaf). Monocotyledons constitute the smaller of the two great divisions of flowering plants, and typically have elongated stalkless leaves with parallel veins (e.g. grasses, lilies, palms).
* Dicotyledon is a flowering plant with an embryo that bears two cotyledons (seed leaves). Dicotyledons constitute the larger of the two great divisions of flowering plants, and typically have broad, stalked leaves with netlike veins (e.g., daisies, hawthorns, oaks).

**Calyx** is the sepals of a flower, typically forming a whorl that encloses the petals and forms a protective layer around a flower in bud.