


# WHITE PINE BUSH

## Pre-Visit and/or on Trip

### MEASURING GROUND COVER I

Children work in pairs. You need:

- Pencil
- Paper
- Two feet

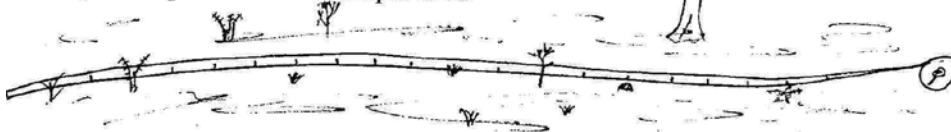
1. Mark the toe of one shoe  pen, felt...
2. Look over the area and note on the table of data the three or four plants that seem to be most abundant. Don't forget bare ground and 'others' on your table of data
3. Walk over the area (lawn, forest floor...) with your head up (don't trip though!) and even steps.
4. The partner will record what is directly beneath the mark each time it is placed on the ground. You may have to stop.
5. Do 10, 20, 25 or 50 steps – there can be easily changed into percentage for comparisons.
6. Graph your results using a suitable method (bar, pie...)

### MEASURING GROUND COVER 2

You need:

- 20m tape
- pencil and paper

1. Lay the tape across the sample area.



2. On your table of data record what is directly beneath each metre mark (for 20 samples) or beneath each 50cm mark over 25m (for 50 samples) or every 20cm over 20m (for 100 samples).
3. Change to percentage for comparisons.
4. Graph your records.
5. Compare – with other results
  - with different area (double bar graphs)



Department of Conservation  
*Te Papa Atawhai*

NAMES:.....

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## MEASURING GROUND COVER

Description of site – (car park, mown grass, in the bush ....)

TABLE OF DATA		
<i>What was stood on</i>	<i>How many intercepts? (HT 11...)</i>	<i>Total</i>
Litter		
Bare ground		
Young tree – Titoki		
Nikau		
.....		
.....		
Fern .....		
.....		
Other		

**NB:** If you do 10, 25, 50 or 100 intercepts it is then easy to change your data to a percentage (if 25 intercepts then multiply each type by 4 to get a percentage) to compare with others.

Graph your data.