

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Exploring the Plant World: Understanding Vascular and Non-Vascular Plants

### Short Answer Key

1. The two main types of vascular tissues in vascular plants are xylem and phloem. Xylem transports water and minerals from the roots to the rest of the plant, while phloem transports sugars produced during photosynthesis to various parts of the plant.
2. Non-vascular plants lack true roots, stems, and leaves. They have simple structures specialized for absorbing water and nutrients through their cell walls.
3. Vascular plants are commonly found in a variety of terrestrial environments, including forests, grasslands, and deserts. Examples of vascular plant species include trees, shrubs, flowers, and grasses.
4. Vascular plants contribute to ecosystem health and functioning by providing habitat and food for animals, stabilizing soil, regulating water flow, and participating in nutrient cycling.
5. Non-vascular plants play an important role in ecosystems by preventing soil erosion, providing shelter and food for small animals, and serving as indicators of environmental quality.

