

Moss Observation Lab

Objectives:

To learn the parts of non-vascular plants.

To compare male and female moss anatomy.



Procedure:

1. You and your partner retrieve one patch of stalked moss from the woods.
2. In your lab book, draw your moss in detail (use perhaps 1/4 a page). Note position and structure of the stalk and capsule. **Label the stalk and capsule.**
3. Measure the stalk and capsule. Record measurement in your lab book.
4. Using a magnifier or dissecting microscope examine the gametophytes. Dig into the base of the plant patch and examine the rhizoids.
5. In your lab book, draw your gametophytes and rhizoids. **Label: gametophytes (male or female if you can), rhizoids, stalk and capsule**

Data:

Figure 1: Moss Patch with stalks and capsules

Figure 2: Gametophytes with rhizoids

Analysis:

1. Locate the female parts of your moss.
2. Locate the male parts of your moss.
3. Locate the stalk and capsule.
4. Does the moss have a vein pattern?
5. What is the maximum height of your patch of moss?

Conclusion:

2-3 sentences on what you learned.