

Name: _____ Date: _____ Section: _____

Design your own miniforest

Draw your miniforest plan below. Mark which layer each plant will fill. Either label your plants or provide a key. If you want to use a grid to help mark out your space, use the last sheet in this packet.

Miniforest size (1 square=10 square feet): _____

Location: _____

Miniforest layers key: **O** = Overstory **U** = Understory **F** = Floor

Estimated number of plants: _____

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Reflect on your design

1. What are some ways the plants may support one another?

2. What kind of animals and insects will your plants attract, and why?

3. How will your forest improve the air, soil, and water in your area?

Share your miniforest plan with others and explain your choices. Compare your design with someone else's and discuss what makes each forest unique.

Name: _____ Date: _____ Section: _____

Plant Key

Miniforest size (1 square=10 square feet): _____

Location: _____

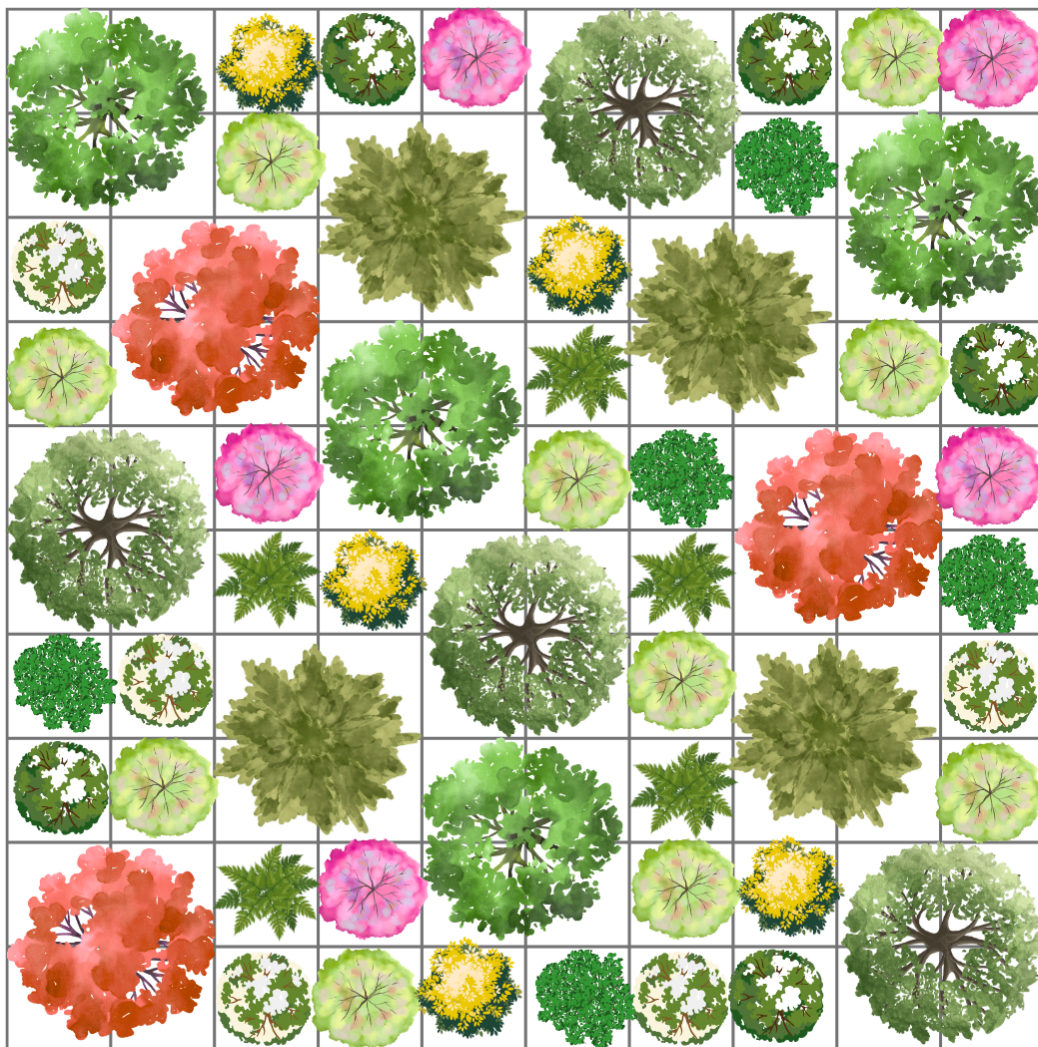
Miniforest layers key: **O** = Overstory **U** = Understory **F** = Floor

Estimated number of plants: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

Section: _____



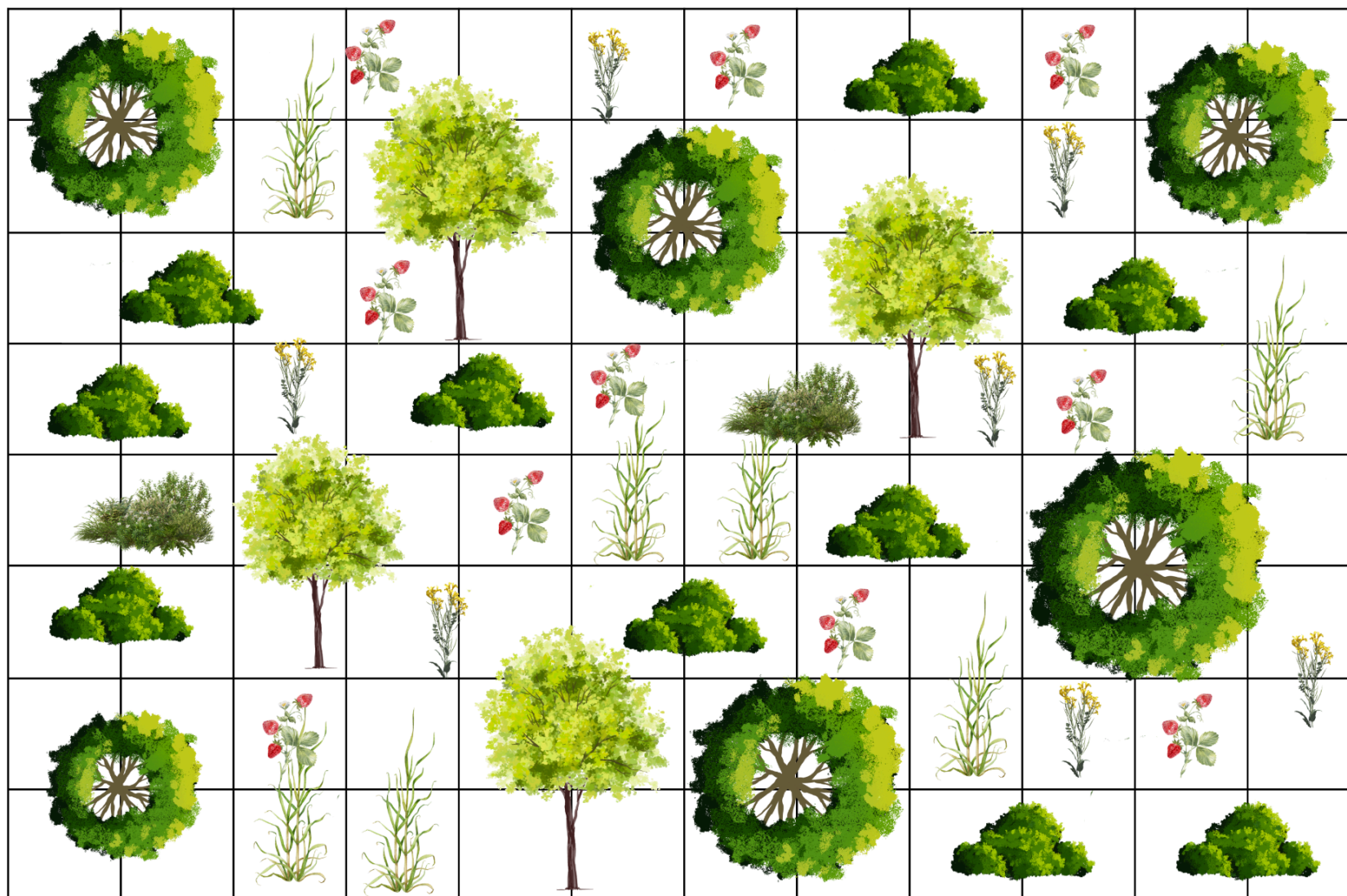
-  Black gum **O**
-  Red maple **O**
-  White oak **O**
-  White Pine **O**
-  American holly **U**
-  Eastern redbud **U**
-  Flowering dogwood **U**
-  Blackhaw viburnum **F**
-  New Jersey tea **F**
-  New York fern **F**
-  Spicebush **F**

Miniforest size: 1,000 square feet

Location: Local park

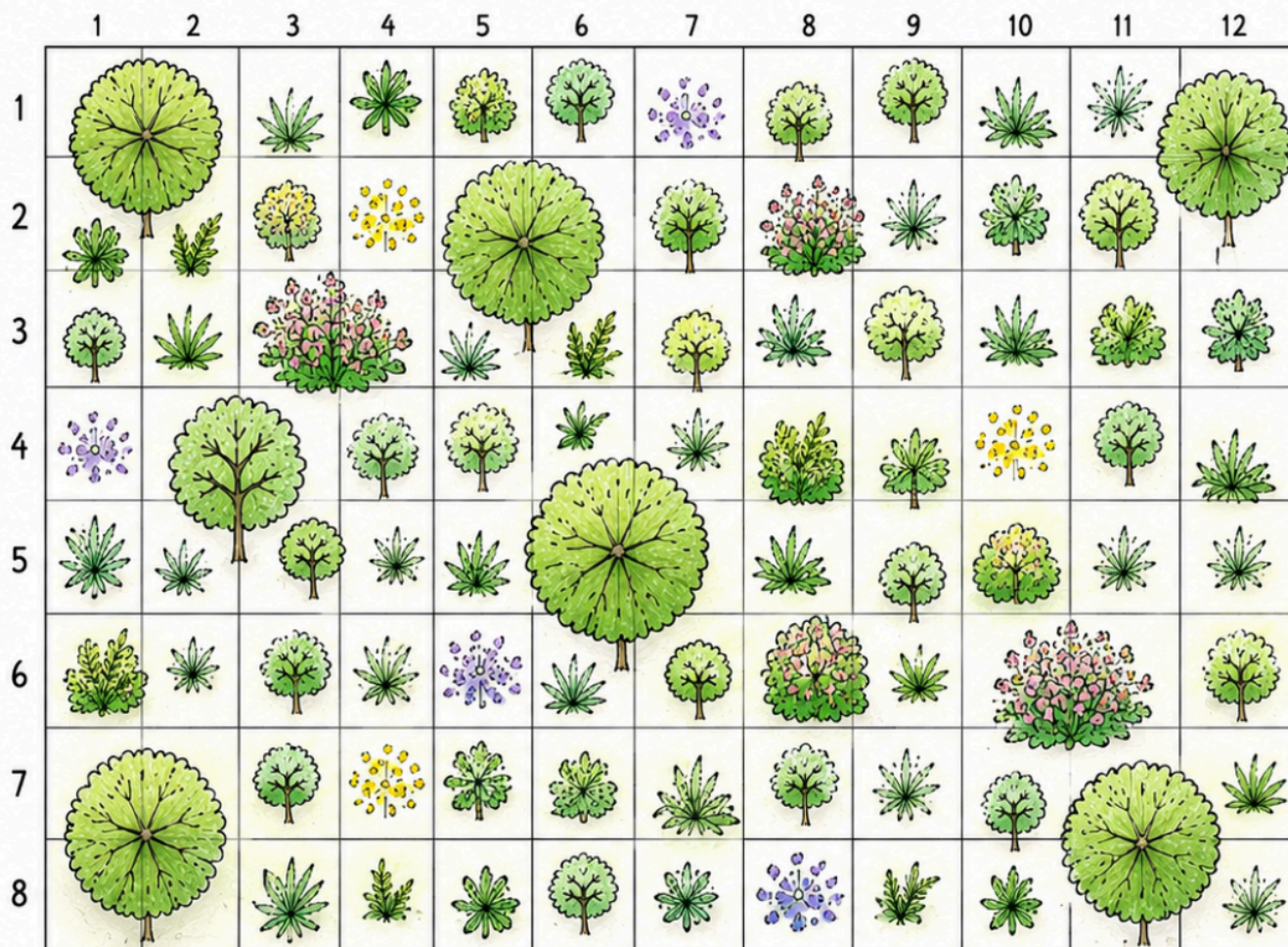
Estimated number of plants: 400

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This sample miniforest plan is 12 squares by 8 squares. If we say that each square is 10 square feet then this miniforest is 960 square feet.

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Overstory (O)
Tall trees forming
the canopy



Understory (U)
smaller trees



Shrub (S)
Bushy plants



Ground plants (G)
Grasses, ferns
and flowering
plants



Each square represents
10 sq. ft.

- Use many different kinds of native plants.
- Mix forest layers throughout your design.
- Plant densely—nature likes crowds!
- Avoid perfect rows. Forests grow naturally and unevenly.
- Think about sunlight, water, and space as you design.
- Include plants that can support insects, birds, and other wildlife.

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Miniforest size (1 square=10 square feet): _____ Location: _____

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Miniforest layers key: **O** = Overstory **U** = Understory **F** = Floor Estimated number of plants: _____