

Name: _____

Grade: _____

Date: _____

Elaborate: Phylogenetic Trees – Plant Traits

Task: Use the following table to construct a phylogenetic tree of plants. Draw your tree on a separate sheet of paper. Use the table to identify shared traits and place branch points accordingly.

Trait	Algae	Mosses	Fern	Pine	Oak
Plastids	+	+	+	+	+
Spores	-	+	+	+	+
Sporo- phyte dominating	-	-	+	+	+
Seeds	-	-	-	+	+
Cones	-	-	-	-	-

Questions:

1. Which two plants are the most closely related? _____
2. Which trait is shared by all five plants? _____
3. Which trait is unique to pine? _____
4. What would be the earliest branching group in the tree?

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Phylogenetic Tree – Plant Traits

Use this space to draw a phylogenetic tree