



**MOONSHINE
YARROW**



**DWARF COYOTE
BUSH**



ELEPHANT TREE



FIELD SEDGE



Scientific name: *Baccharis pilularis*

Dwarf Coyote brush is a large bush. The narrow, fingernail-sized leaves grow close to the stems and stay green all year round. It is a very important food source and habitat for native birds and insects. This plant has seeds covered in fluff that help the seeds get carried away by the wind. Be careful though, because some people are allergic!

Scientific name: *Achillea millefolium*

Moonshine yarrow is a small bush with feathery, fern-like leaves. The small flowers are white or yellow, and grow in clusters with flat tops. Indigenous people use this plant as a medicine to treat toothache, fevers and to reduce swelling.



Scientific name: *Carex praegracilis*

Field sedge is a type of grass that is found widely across North America. This plant lives in damp habitats such as riverbanks and wetlands. Field sedge grows long green blades in dense clumps, with its seeds on stalks that look similar to wheat. This plant is a good alternative for lawns because it requires much less water than turf grass, can withstand being walked on, and can be maintained with a mower.

Scientific name: *Bursera microphylla*

The elephant tree is a tree species native to the deserts of the southwest United States and northwest Mexico. This tree has light grayish brown bark that peels away from the trunk. Its leaves are small and oval shaped. The trunk looks swollen, which is a way it conserves water in its dry habitat. This plant relies on wildlife eating its fruit to spread its seeds. The Cahuilla people use the sap of the elephant tree as a medicine.



BRITTLEBUSH



**CALIFORNIA
POPPY**



PARRY'S NOLINA



BLADDER POD



Scientific name: *Eschscholzia californica*

The California poppy is a plant that is found widely across the state of California, mainly in open, grassy habitats. The California poppy has thin, willowy leaves that grow out of its stem and produces vibrant orange or yellow cup-shaped blossoms. This plant attracts a variety of pollinator species, including birds, bees, and a variety of butterflies. The California poppy is also the state flower of California!

Scientific name: *Encella farinosa*

Brittlebush is a flowering shrub found across southern California in dry slopes and hillsides. It has silvery leaves with wavy edges and stems that grow above the leaves. Brittlebush produces bright yellow flowers with yellow centers that look similar to daisies. This plant is a food source for many desert animals, such as deer and birds. Its sweet smelling sap from is traditionally used to make incense in Mexico.



Scientific name: *Peritoma arborea*

Bladderpod is a shrub native to Southern California and Baja California. It grows oval sage green leaves and the flowers are bright yellow clusters that bloom in the winter and spring. When not facing sunlight, the flowers droop into a bell shape. The Kumeyaay use bladderpod flowers as a food source. The pod-like fruit is edible and attracts pollinators.

Scientific name: *Nolina parryii*

Parry's Nolina grows in high elevation mountains and desert habitats. When Parry's nolina blooms in the late spring, the flowering stem can grow up to the height of a giraffe! The flowers bloom in tiny, fluffy clusters, and it grows pod-shaped fruit. Parry's Nolina is drought-tolerant and can survive for months with no water.

In Kumeyaay/lipay Aa: 'Epshash



BLUE PALO VERDE

BLUE-EYED GRASS



**NODDING NEEDLE
GRASS**

YELLOW BELLS



Scientific name: *Sisyrinchium*

Blue-eyed Grass is a plant found by the coast or in the grasslands and wooded areas of California. The green leaves are grass-like and the blue-purple flowers have six petals with a yellow center. After flowering, Blue-eyed grass becomes dormant in the summer. The Kumeyaay use this plant to make a tea that treats stomach cramps.

In Kumeyaay/lipay Aa: Kuushaw



Scientific name: *Parkinsonia florida*

Blue Palo Verde is a tree from the Sonoran Desert. The small oval-shaped leaves fall off easily when the weather is dry. This plant gets its name from the Spanish word for green because the trunk and branches of the tree are green. This allows the tree to photosynthesize even when it doesn't have leaves! The yellow flowers cover all of the tree when it blooms. Its peanut-shaped seed pods are a favorite food of desert animals.



Scientific name: *Tecoma stans*

Yellow Bells, also known as yellow elder, is a shrub that is found in California and Central America. The green leaves are shaped like tiny bananas with crinkled edges. The large, trumpet-shaped flowers grow in bright yellow clusters that hang off the edge of the branches. Yellow bells attract pollinators such as bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds. Today, the plant is being researched to see if it can help treat diabetes.



Scientific name: *Nassella cernua*

Nodding Needle Grass is a grass that grows throughout California, especially in coastal ranges. The grass blades are green with brown or purple seeds on the tip. These are called seedheads and serve a similar function to flowers. Nodding needle grass is popular with many different species of butterfly pollinators.