



Scrawled shortcuts through the research maze...

The Scoop on Species...

Plants

Browse the **580** section in the **Reference** area for encyclopedias and dictionaries about plant life.

USDA Plants Database

Is *Plantago lanceolata* invasive? What species of *Viola* grow in the US? Search this USDA site by common or scientific name for characteristics, uses, classification, and images.

<http://plants.usda.gov/>

PlantFacts Factsheet Database

Need a recipe for acorn pancakes? Search university and government websites using keywords, and common or scientific names of plants.

<http://plantfacts.osu.edu/web/>

Animals

Graze the encyclopedias and dictionaries in the **Reference 590s**.

Grzimek's Animal Life Encyclopedia

Is the common tree shrew monogamous? Accounts of species include physical characteristics, behavior, distribution, reproductive biology, diet, and significance to humans. Volume 17 indexes the set.

Reference 590.3 G895tE 2003

The Birds of North America

Better than MySpace for birds! Check out the local red-tailed hawk in issue 52: behavior, sounds, mating, appearance, and energetics. Index in Volume 18.

Reference 598 B618b

Animal Diversity Web

Ever wonder why the *Sciurus carolinensis* chase each other? This University of Michigan site includes characteristics, reproduction, diet, economic importance, behavior and more.

<http://animaldiversity.ummz.umich.edu/site/>

** Warning: Browsing reference books can be enlivening!*