

Name: _____

Date: _____

Use the following web page to fill in the blanks as you read each slide in the Prairie Slide Show.

<http://www.ahsd25.k12.il.us/prairie/prairie.html>

1. In a _____, every living thing depends on each other.
2. About one quarter of the earth's land is covered with _____.
3. What three things do grasslands require? _____,
_____, and _____.
4. The grassland in North America is called the _____, which is the French word for _____.
5. Prairie climate is quite dry - too dry for trees but just right for _____.
Winters are _____ and summers are _____.
6. It can be very windy on the prairie because there are no _____
to block the wind.
7. Settlers who moved to the prairie removed the grasses and forbs to plant
_____ and _____.
8. Today people are working to save the _____ that are left.
9. What kind of prairie is found in Illinois? _____
10. Rainfall in the tall grass prairie is _____ than in other areas.
11. Plants in the tall grass prairie form a deep and thick mat of _____
called sod.

12. Wildflowers (forbs) begin to grow as _____ comes to the prairie.
13. In autumn, flowers fade and _____ fall to the ground and are scattered by the wind.
14. Why does corn grow so well on the land that used to be prairie? _____
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15. The mixed grass prairie gets (more/less) _____ rain than the tall grass prairie.
16. Grasses that grow in the mixed grass prairie are not as tall as the grasses in the tall grass prairie because of less _____.
17. The short grass _____ is located to the east of The Rocky Mountains.
18. In the short grass prairie there is very little _____.
19. The short grass prairie is the _____ prairie with long periods between rainfalls.
20. Much of the mixed grass and short grass prairies remain because they were never _____ for crops.
21. Lightning can hit the ground and start a _____ in the dry grass.
22. Prairie fires can move quickly because of the _____.
23. Fires keep the prairie healthy by killing young trees and bushes that might shade the _____.
24. Scientists start fires in the prairie preserves to keep them _____.