Date:	 Period:	

Looking at Stomata

- 1. What enters leaves through the stomata?
- 2. What exits leaves through the stomata?
- 3. How could a plant be harmed if the stomata are open all of the time?
- 4. How could stomata adapt to prevent the problem discussed in question 3?
- 5. Where on the leaf do you think the most stomata will be found—the top or the bottom—explain why you think this?
- 6. Below is a drawing of a stoma. Label the stomata/pore and the guard cells.



- 7. What conditions cause the stomata to close?
- 8. In hot and dry conditions why can the stomata not remain closed permanently?

Procedure

- 1. Go outside and obtain two green leaves from two different plants—one grassy and one non-grassy.
- 2. Paint about 1-2 square centimeters of the bottom of each leaf with nail polish, and allow the nail polish to dry.
- 3. Once the nail polish is dry, press the sticky side of the clear tape over the nail polish and gently remove.
- 4. Stick the tape to a slide.
- 5. Look at the leaf epidermis under the microscope. Sketch your observations below. Specifically focus on the structure, quantity, and distribution of stomata on the leaf.
- 6. Repeat this procedure for the other leaf.
- 7. When you finish, dispose of the slides in the broken glass disposal box.

Observations and Questions

Grass Leaf		

Non-Grass Leaf		

- 8. How is the arrangement of stomata different between grassy and non-grassy leaves?
- 9. What enters the leaf through the stomata?
- 10. What exits the leaf through the stomata?
- 11. True or False. Photosynthesis could occur of a leaf had no stomata. If False, explain why.