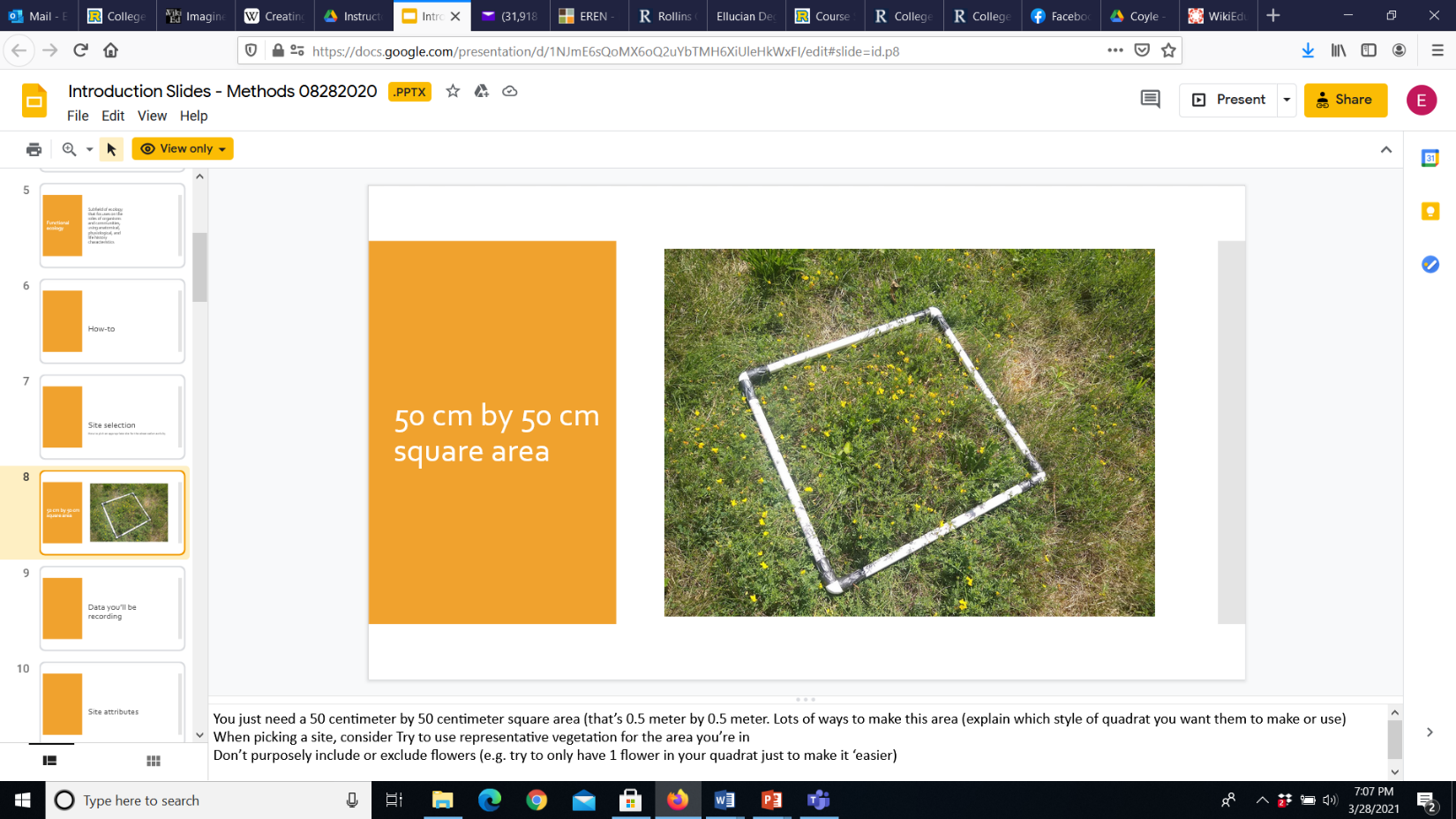
# **Backyard Pollinators Research Project**

**Module 3: Create your quadrat**

### To complete your floral observations, you will need to use a 50 x 50 cm quadrat at five different sites. In ideal conditions, we would provide you with something that looks like this:



Because these are not ideal conditions, you will need to make your own quadrat. Keep in mind that your sampling site does not have to be flat on the ground, so if you have selected sites that will be perpendicular to the ground or need to be held above ground level, take that into consideration as you choose your materials.

The example pictured above is a typical quadrat that would be used in an ecological study, constructed using PVC pipe and held together with duct tape. These materials are sturdy and lightweight, and easy to use in a variety of settings. They are easily portable and reusable. If you have access to these materials, you can construct your own quadrat very easily, and students will use them for years to come (unless you want to keep it for your very own)! Department funds are available for construction of equipment that we will keep.

If you do not have access to these materials, or just want to use materials you already have on hand, you can be creative to create a quadrat out of almost anything. All you need are four 50cm lengths of something, and a way to hold them steady on your study site for at least 15 minutes.

One example, pictured below, is to measure out four 50cm lengths of string and loop them around toothpicks that you can stick in the ground to delineate your quadrat. This method will obviously not work as well for a sampling plot that is not flat on the ground.



You can use any materials that make sense for your sample plots. Be creative.

**Once you have your plan for at least one quadrat, post a photo of it, or the materials you will use to construct it in the field (like above example) here**