# **Backyard Pollinators Research Project**

**Module 4: Floral observations and data collection**

Now that you have learned your insect functional groups and have your quadrat, you are ready for data collection!

For each of your five sites, you should put your quadrat in place and then leave it alone for five minutes so that insects aren’t discouraged from visiting due to your activity. During the five minute waiting period, you can complete the data about your sampling that day:

**Site (1, 2, 3, 4, or 5):**

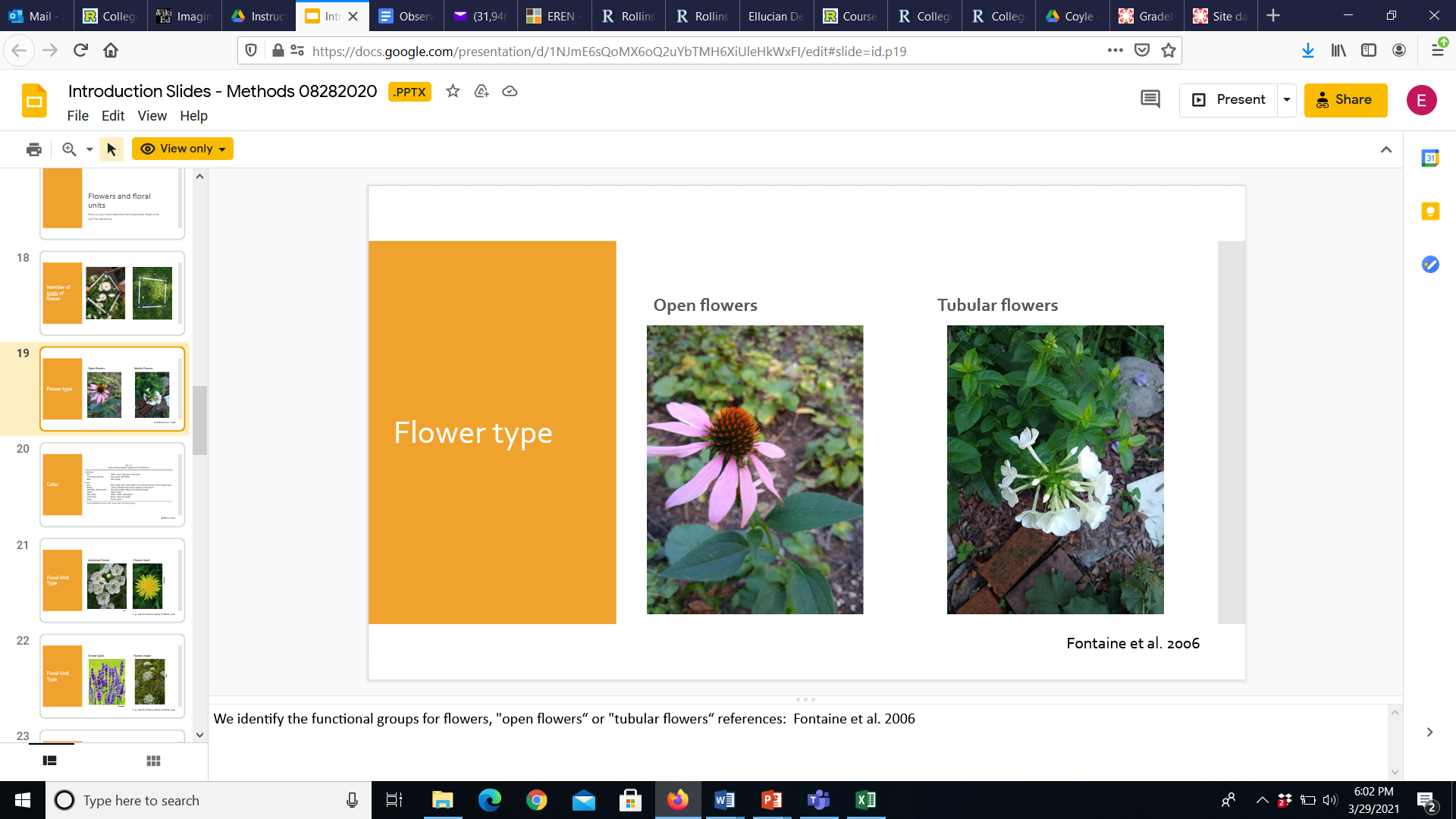
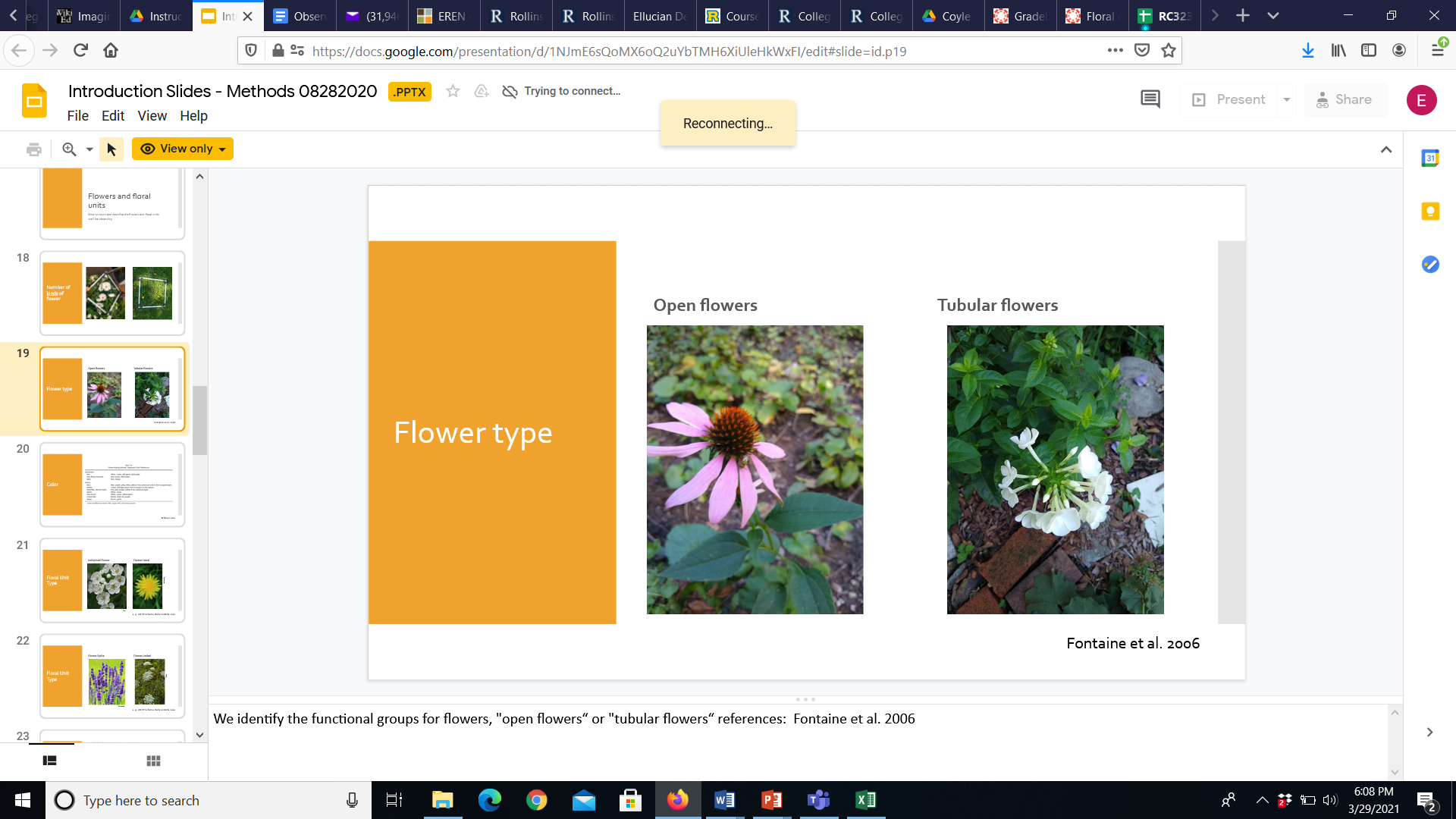
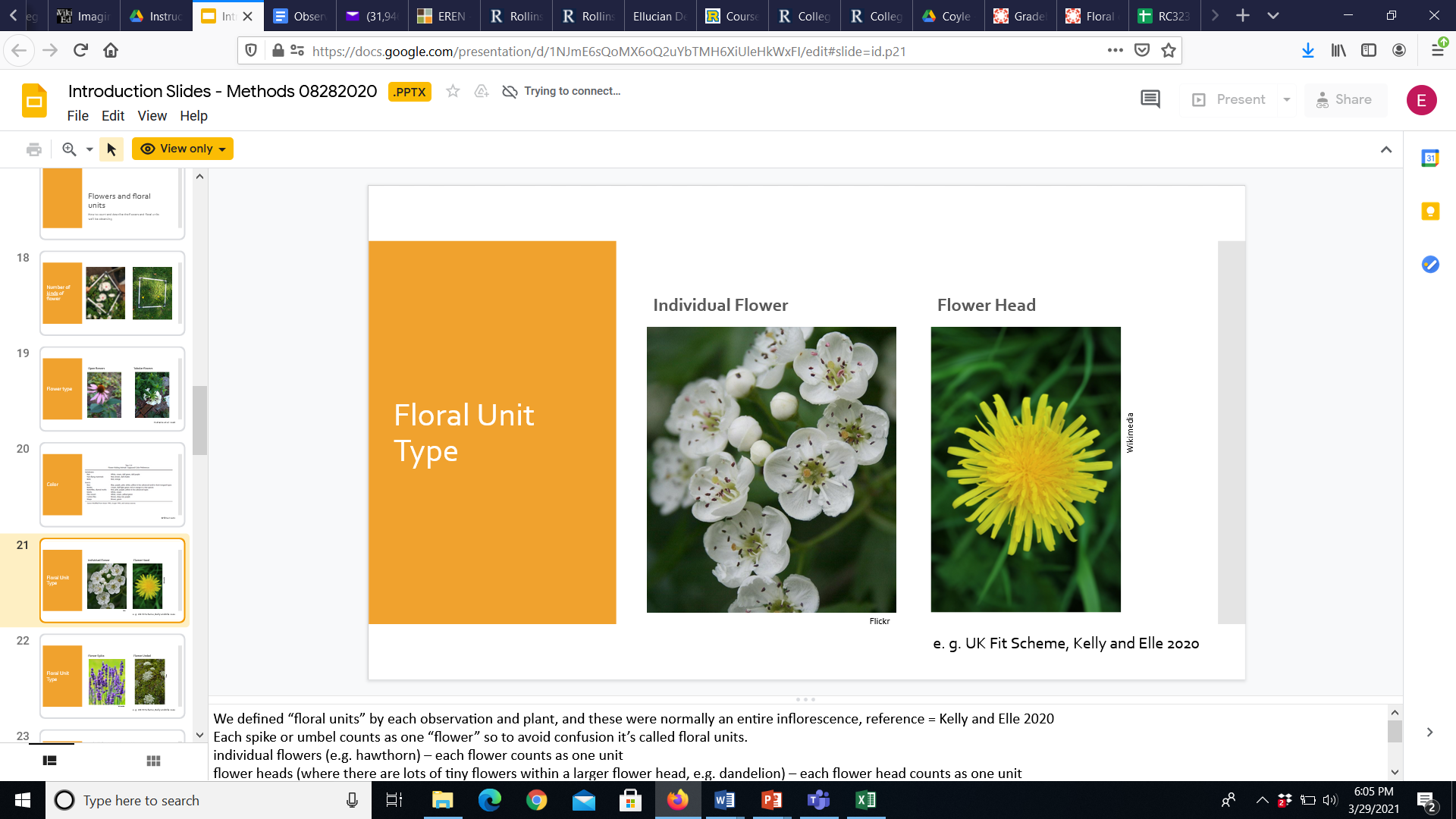
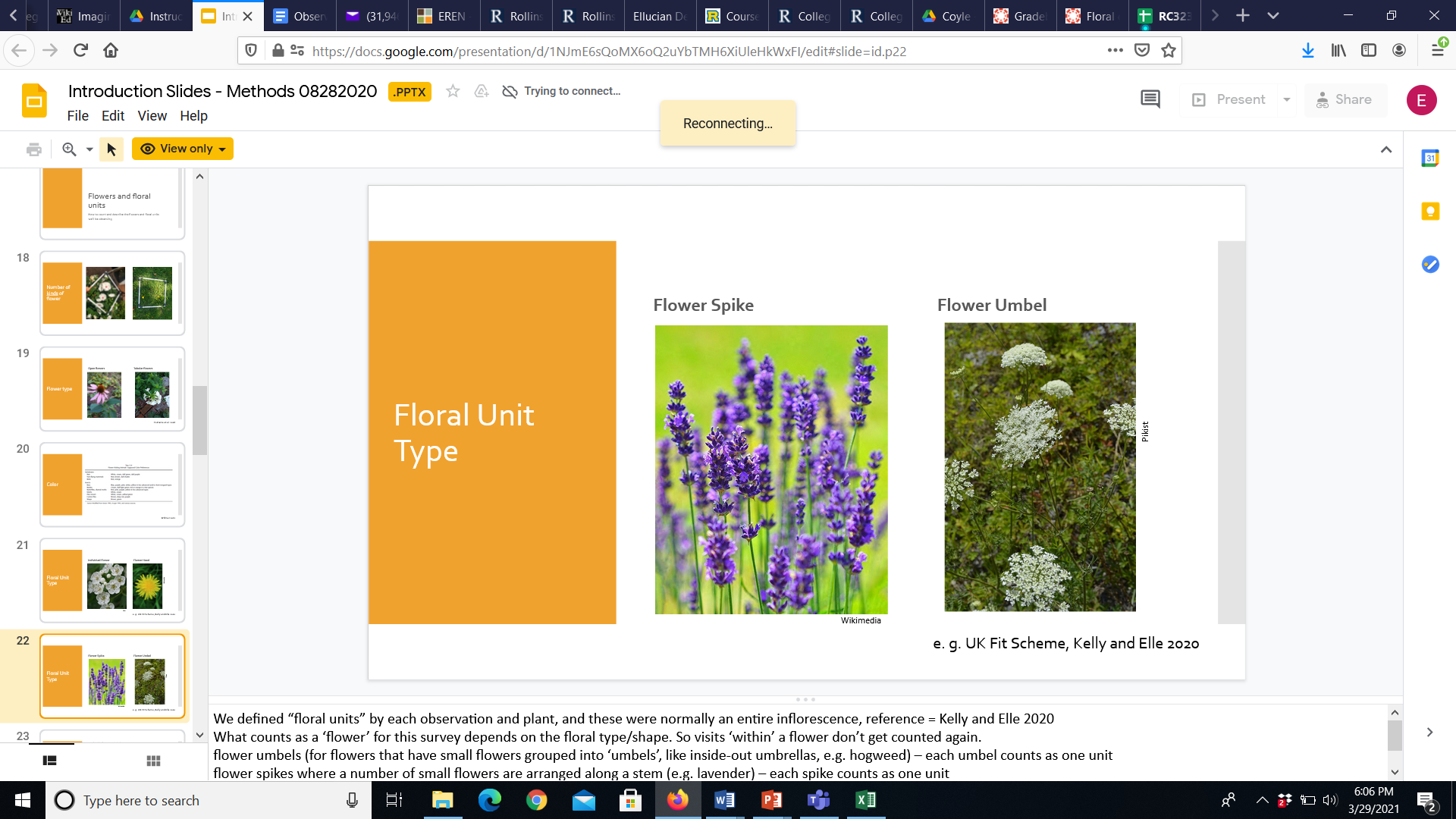
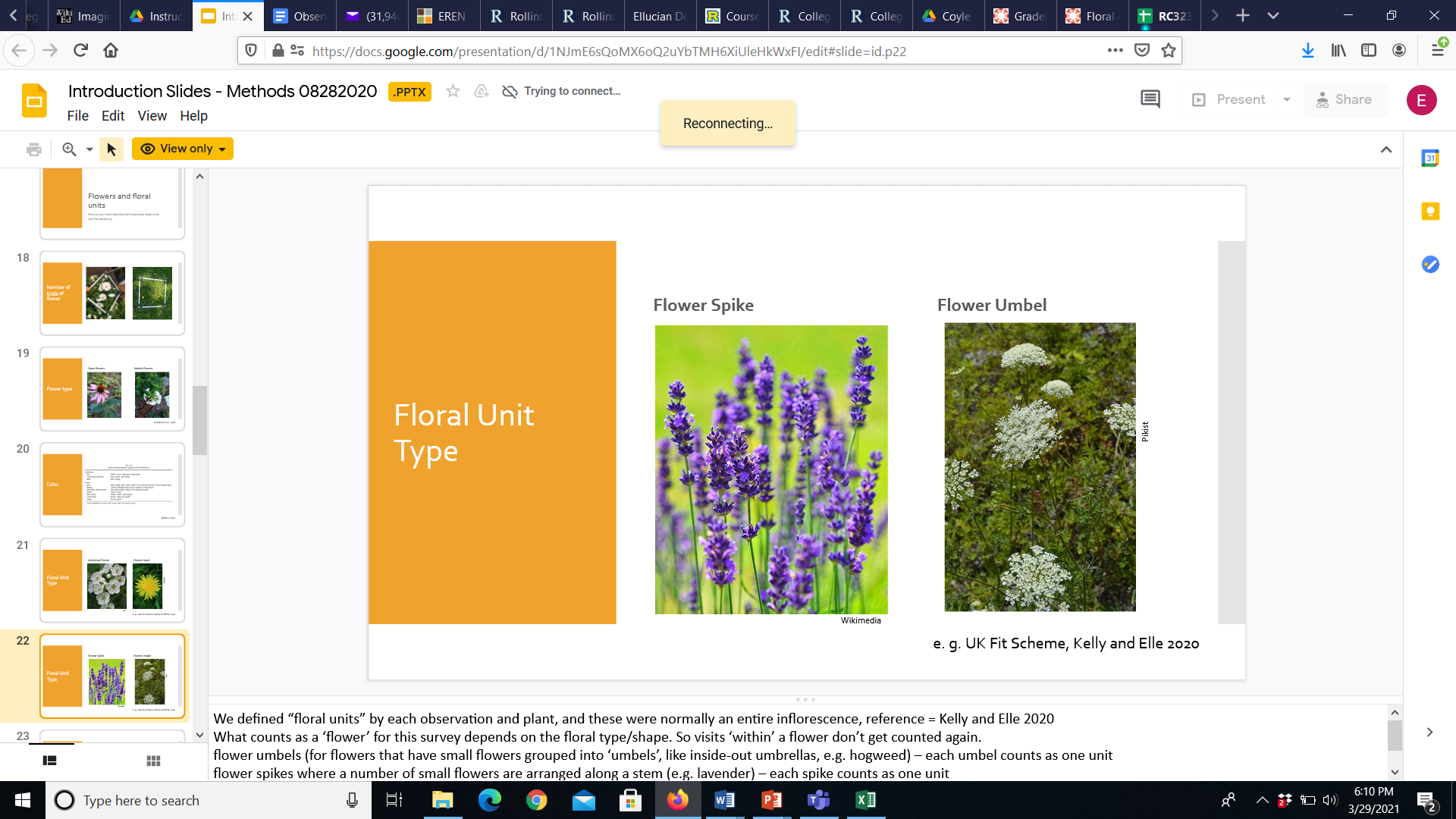
**Temperature (choose one): <60 °F or 60-80 °F or >80 °F**

**Skies (choose one): Clear or Partly Cloudy or Bright Overcast**

**Wind (choose one): Calm or Light Wind or Strong Wind**

**Number of types of flower in plot:**

**Percent overall flower cover (choose one): <10% or 10-50% or >50%**

 Next, evaluate the flowers that you will be monitoring. For each kind of flower in your plot, complete the following (pictures below for reference). Copy and paste the table for each type of flower in your plot.

**Flower type number (1 to however many types of flower are in your plot):**

**Flower type (choose one): open or tubular**

**Color:**

**Floral unit type (choose one): individual or head or spike or umbel**

**Number of floral units of that type:**

**Floral unit width (estimate): <1 inch OR 1-3 inch OR 3-6 inch OR >6 inch**

Now you are ready for monitoring! Have your camera and identification cheat sheets ready, and set a timer for 10 minutes. During the ten minute period, record how many insect visitors you see to each flower type. If the same insect visits multiple flowers of the same type, that counts as 1. If the same insect goes to two different kinds of flowers, you should record it on each. If two of the same type of insect visit the same flower, that counts as two.

Observe your plot for 10 minutes and record your data:

**Site (1, 2, 3, 4, or 5):**

**Monitoring start time:**

**Flower type number (1 to however many types of flower are in your plot):**

**# visits from:**

**Bumblebees \_\_\_\_\_\_ Solitary bees \_\_\_\_\_\_ Honeybees \_\_\_\_\_\_ Beetles \_\_\_\_\_\_ Lepidoptera \_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Syrphid flies \_\_\_\_\_\_ Other flies \_\_\_\_\_\_ Wasps \_\_\_\_\_\_ Bugs \_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Copy and paste for as many flower types as you have in your plot.**