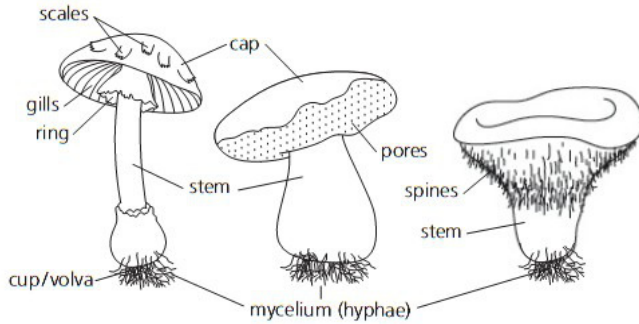


Santa Cruz Fungus Fair - Checklist of Fungi I Have Found

GILLS, PORES, OR TEETH?

A review of shroomy terminology



Gills plate-like structures on the under-surface of the cap of some mushrooms.

Pores (also called tubes) hollow cylinders containing spores and forming the spongy underside of bolete and polypore caps

Teeth (also called spines) pendant spore-bearing 'teeth' that hang like icicles

Scales raised pieces of broken skin on a cap or stalk surface

Ring (also called an annulus) a circular skirt on a mushroom stalk formed by a broken veil

Mycelium (pl. mycelia): [mahy-see-lee-uh m] a mass of hyphae (usually underground) that makes up the main body of the fungus

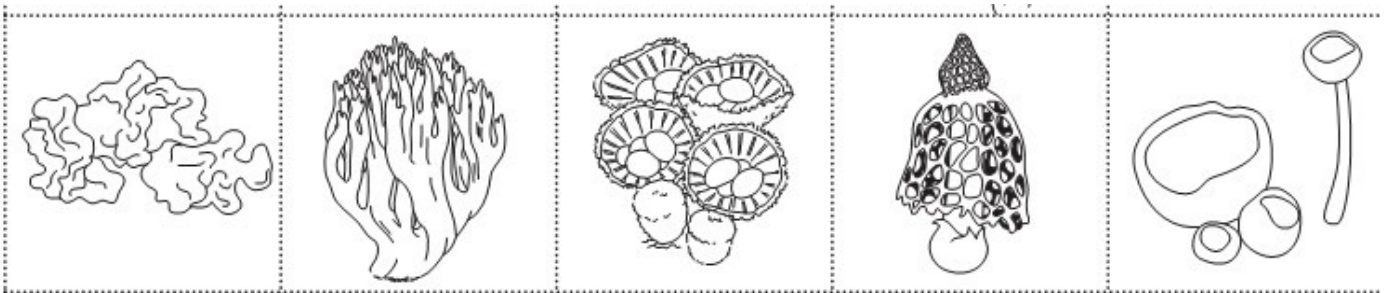
Hypha (pl. hyphae) [hahy-fuh or hahy-fee] individual thread-like filament that forms the mycelium and fruit body. Hyphae secrete enzymes that digest food so that it can be absorbed by the fungus.

Cup (also called volva) the sac-like cup or tissue surrounding the base of the stem after the veil has broken.

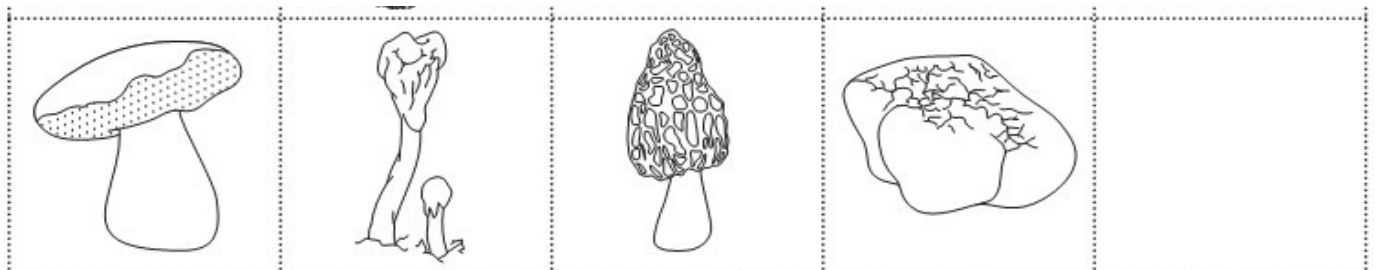
- Agaric
 Chanterelle
 Teeth Fungi
 Polypores
 Puffballs



- Jelly Fungi
 Coral Fungi
 Bird Nest
 Stinkhorn
 Cups



- Bolete
 Earth Tongue
 Morel
 Truffel



Agarics “The Gilled”

They have a cap and stem with gills underneath the cap.

Habitat: Anywhere and everywhere!

Chanterelles

These mushrooms are vase or trumpet-shaped with ridges that start under the cap and go down the stem.

Habitat: These mushrooms are also mycorrhizal; see if you can find the tree they are partners with.

Teeth Fungi

These fungi have a cap and stem with “teeth” or spines that hang like icicles.

Habitat: Teeth fungi can grow either on wood or on the ground.

Polypores

Also called bracket fungi, they have pores on their underside but no cap or stem like the boletes and are tough (like leather or wood).

Habitat: These mushrooms grow on trees and are heavy duty wood recyclers!

Puffballs

Puffballs are round or pear-shaped. Earthstars are also round or pear-shaped when young, but they open into a star shape with a thin-skinned spore sac in the center.

Jelly Fungi

Jelly fungi are rubbery, seaweed-like mushrooms. They can be white, orange, pink, rose, brown or black.

They could be shapeless, shaped like cups, railroad spikes or branched like coral.

Habitat: Jelly fungi often grow on logs, stumps and twigs. Some species are parasitic on other fungi, mosses, ferns or plants.

Club & Coral Fungi

Coral fungi are usually branched and really do look like marine coral! They can be white, yellow, orange, red, purple, or tan. Club fungi are finger-like or club-shaped and can be almost any color as well.

Bird’s Nest Fungi

Bird’s Nest fungi really do look like a miniature bird’s nest. They are very, very small--usually no more than 1cm in diameter.

Habitat: The best place to look for these mushrooms is on wood or twigs.

Stinkhorns

You may actually smell this mushroom before you see it! They have a stem and a cap-like, smelly, slimy top with a cup or volva at its bottom. The beautiful basket stinkhorn lives in the tropics and actually has a lacy skirt. When these mushrooms are small, they look like perfect hard boiled eggs.

Habitat: These mushrooms are found on the ground, on rotten wood, on lawns, or in gardens or mulch.

Cup Fungi

These mushrooms can look like little cups, ears, flasks, goblets, saucers, or orange peels. Habitat: They are found in a wide variety of habitats including in damp basements! Look for them during cool, early spring weather, and again in the fall.

Boletes “The Pored”

They have a cap and stem with pores underneath the cap; these mushrooms look “spongy”.

Habitat: These mushrooms are usually found growing on the ground but sometimes grow on wood. They are also mycorrhizal; see if you can find the tree they are partners with.

Earth Tongues

These mushrooms look like mini fire pokers or lollipops. They can also look like matchsticks with flattened “heads”. Although they can be confused with club fungi, they are much more irregular in shape.

Habitat: The larger earth tongues live on soil, humus or wood while most of the smaller ones are parasitic on plant stems, leaves and other tissues.

Morels & Elfin Saddles

Morels have a stem and honeycomb-like cap. False morels have a wrinkled cap and look like little, brown brains. Elfin Saddles have a cap that is wrinkled and saddle-like or cup-shaped as well as they have a stem.

Habitat: Morels and elfin saddles grow in many different habitats. Look for these “early birds” in the spring!

Truffles Truffles look like old potatoes.

Habitat: Both of these fungi live underground so they are hard to find! They are also mycorrhizal; see if you can find the tree they are partnered with.