Spring 2024 Oxford Virtual Academy- Plants

Jan 26, 2024 **What are plants?** What are their needs? How are their needs met? Learn plant parts & lifecycle. Take a look inside their cells.

Feb 2, 2024 **Native Wildflower winter sowing**. Michigan wildflowers spend their winter underground, give their seeds a head start by making a milk jug greenhouse.

Feb 9, 2024 **Coniferous Trees.** We’ll be discussing evergreen trees and searching the trails for some of their fragrant foliage. Discover different ways evergreens are used- they’re more than just holiday decorations!

Feb 16, 2024 **Maple Madness!** Help identify maple trees and tap them so we can collect the sap. We’ll go over identifying maples from other Michigan trees, why sap runs, and distinguishing different types of maple trees. Enjoy a sample of maple syrup made from sap collected here at Dinosaur Hill!

Feb 23, 2024 **Deciduous Trees.** Now that we know our maples, we’ll learn a more interesting leafy trees by leaf, bud, and bark. Make a booklet of leaf and bark rubbings.

March 1, 2024 **Plant Art.** Make a flower press so you can dry out flowers and leaves. Use pressed flowers to make a craft.

March 8, 2024 **Gardening.** Learn how to read a seed packet and plan a garden. Then we’ll start some seeds inside.

March 15, 2024 **Pollination & Seed Dispersal.** Play a pollination game to illustrate how pollen moves from plant to plant. Test some seeds to decide how each reaches its destination.

March 22, 2024 **Hazardous Plants.** Discover which plants you should stay away from! Compare poison ivy with other leaves of three. Raise your awareness of other plants not to touch.

April 5, 2024 **Shrubs/Vines.** From one hairy vine, let’s identify some more. Walk the trails and search for vines and shrubs to identify.

April 19, 2024 **Flowers.** Dissect real flowers to find the parts inside that make seeds. Hit the trails looking for the first spring wildflowers.

April 26, 2024 **Compost.** What happens when a plant dies? Help return those nutrients to the soil through composting. Today we’ll discover how to compost and add it to the beds in the children’s garden.

May 3, 2024 **Invasive Species.** Invasive plants outcompete the plants that belong in this forest. Help us find and pull garlic mustard and dame’s rocket here on the preserve.

May 10, 2024 **Carnivorous Plants.** The most well-known bug eating plant is the Venus flytrap, but that’s just one of 5 main types. Learn about carnivorous plants from around the world, including the nine species that can be found in Oakland County, Michigan and the special relationships they sometimes form. Make a sundew terrarium to take home.