



PROJECT

Plant Explorers

Session 4 of 4

Our Plants: Research and Writing

In this final session, students will complete a research form about a specific local plant species, as well as a creative piece of writing and art piece about that species.

YOU WILL NEED

- Computers with internet access OR handouts on specific species
- A list of local plant species
- Water colors
- Writing worksheet
- Paint brushes
- Water color paper
- Water
- Plastic cups
- Plant Explorers — Slideshow
- Species Personification — Handout
- Plant Info Sheet — Handout

STEP 1 (5 Minutes)

Species Selection

Provide students with a list of local plant species (there can be as many plant species as there are students, or students may overlap in their selections) to select. Students may also be assigned species, if that works better.

STEP 2 (45 Minutes)

Research and Classification

Depending on what resources you have available, students may conduct research into their plants on computers with internet access. If such a resource is not available, create plant guides in advance for each species. Make sure to check the informational worksheets to make sure the plant guides have all the necessary information.

Students will research their plant species and complete the informational sheet.

STEP 3 (25 Minutes)

Water Colors

Students will use watercolors to create their own representation of the plant to be included in the guidebook.

STEP 4 (25 minutes)

Species Personification

Students will complete a writing worksheet personifying a day in the life of their species. It will ask them to identify the plant's personality traits, physical traits, home, and other essential information. It will then ask the students to write a journal entry about that plant going to school. Would it be a cool kid? Would it be a rebel?

STEP 5 (15 Minutes)

Share-Out

Students will share what they learned about their species and any key points of their personification stories that they would like to tell.

STEP 6 (5 Minutes)

Teachbacks and Close

Lead students in a closing discussion.

- What was the most interesting thing they learned?
- What was their favorite part of these lessons?
- What would they like to investigate further?