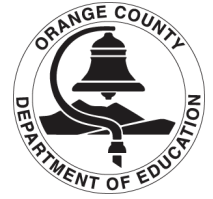




Flower and Leaf Pressing Family Activity



INTRODUCTION

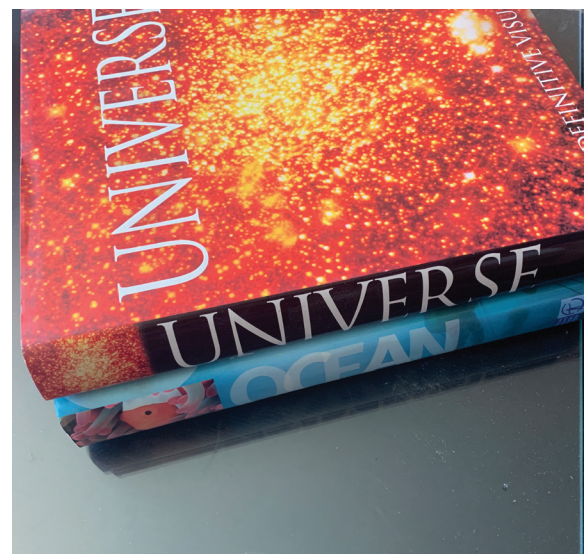
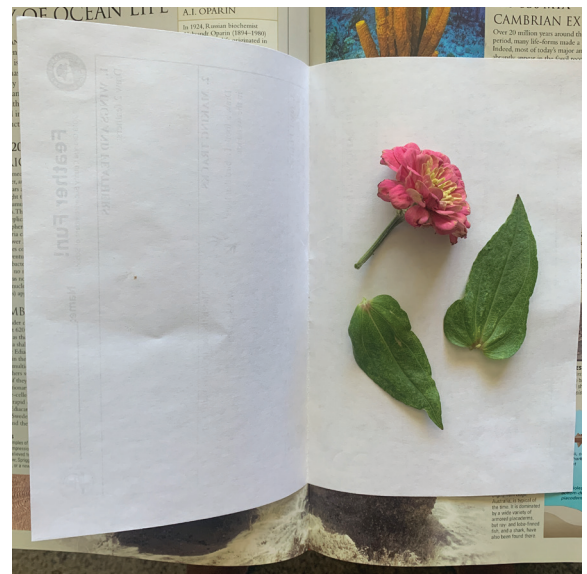
Many flowers and leaves can be pressed in order to help preserve them. You can also use the pressed plant to label different parts of the plant and use them to compare one species to another. It is a great way to make observations and preserve your observations for future reference.

MATERIALS

- Flowers or leaves (use some from your yard or other location where you have permission to pick plants)
- Paper
- At least one heavy book

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Fold the paper in half across the short side.
2. Place the paper inside the book so that the fold of the paper is along the spine of the book.
3. Place one or two leaves or flowers on one side of the paper.
4. Carefully close the book so that the flower and leaves are flat.
5. Stack a couple more heavy books on top and leave them in a place where they won't be in the way or disturbed.
6. After a week, carefully open the book and check on the flower or leaf. If they aren't dry, close the book and leave it for another week. It may take more than a month depending on how fresh your flower or leaf is.
7. After your plant is pressed, you can label the different parts of the plant.



QUESTIONS

- How are different plants similar? How are they different?
- Did the colors of the flowers and leaves change after they were dried?
- What other plants could you press?