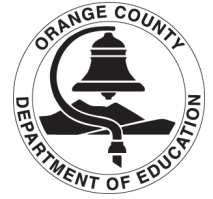




My Native Plant Classroom Activity



SYNOPSIS

Students will choose their favorite Orange County native plant, research it, then write a short description of it using a graphic organizer or write their own composition. Students will make an oral presentation to their classmates.

OBJECTIVES

Students will be able to:

- Understand the structure and organization of various reference materials
- Make an oral presentation about a research topic

NGSS CONCEPTS

- 2-LS4-1. Make observations of plants and animals to compare the diversity of life in different habitats.
- 3-LS4-3. Construct an argument with evidence that in a particular habitat some organisms can survive well, some survive less well, and some cannot survive at all.
- 4-LS1-1. Construct an argument that plants and animals have internal and external structures that function to support survival, growth, behavior, and reproduction.

MATERIALS

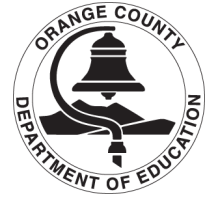
- research books
- paper/graphic organizer
- pencil/pen
- Internet (californianativeplants.com, calfloranursery.com, and laspilitas.com)

PROCEDURE

1. Provide the students with the list of native plants from which they can choose (see next page). Showing them photographs of the plants may assist the students in making their choices.
2. Give each student a graphic organizer to write their file reports. If students will be writing their own compositions, provide them with details about your expectations.
3. Students should be given access to books, library, and the internet to research their chosen native plants. If the students do not know how to navigate these reference materials, assist them in learning their structure and organization.
4. Students write their reports.
5. Students make oral presentations about their research and native plants. Students may choose to use props, photographs, and other visual aids to communicate with their classmates.



My Native Plant Classroom Activity (cont.)



Native Plants Found in the Coastal Sage Scrub

- California Sagebrush (*Artemisia californica*)
- California Buckwheat (*Eriogonum fasciculatum*)
- Bush Monkeyflower (*Mimulus aurantiacus*)
- White Sage (*Salvia apiana*)
- Black Sage (*Salvia mellifera*)
- Purple Sage (*Salvia leucophylla*)
- Bush Mallow (*Malacothamnus fasciculatus*)
- Coastal Prickly Pear (*Opuntia littoralis*)
- Toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*)
- Lemonade Berry (*Rhus integrifolia*)
- Laurel Sumac (*Malosma laurina*)
- Coyote Bush (*Baccharis pilularis*)
- Coastal Scrub Oak (*Quercus dumosa*)

Native Plants Found in Chaparral

- Chamis Deergrass (*Muhlenbergia rigens*)
- Giant Wild Rye (*Lymus condensatus*)
- Purple Needlegrass (*Nasella pulchra*)

Native Wildflowers

- California Everlasting (*Gnaphalium californica*)
- California Poppy (*Eschscholzia californica*)
- Caterpillar Phacelia (*Phacelia cicutaria*)
- Dove Weed (*Eremocarpus setiger*)
- Miniature Lupine (*Lupinus bicolor*)
- Purple Owl's Clover (*Castilleja exserta*)
- Yarrow (*Achillea millifolium*)

Native Plants Found in the Oak Woodland

- Coast Live Oak (*Quercus agrifolia*)
- California Black Walnut (*Juglans californica*)

Native Plants Found in Wetlands

- Cattail (*Typha domingensis*)
- Mulefat (*Baccharis viminea*)
- California bulrush (*Scirpus californicus*)
- Tule (*Schoenoplectus acutus*)

Your Name: _____

My Native Plant is: _____

Native Habitat: _____

Size of the Plant: _____

Amount of Sun: _____

Amount of Water Needed: _____

Special Adaptations: _____

Leaf Shape:

Picture/Drawing of Plant: