

Middle School Native Plant Habitat Restoration Education Activities
Suggested Seasonal Timing

Native Plant ID - Fall

Title	Theme/ Activity	Time	Props/ tools
<u>Ancient Knowledge</u>	Ancient ID knowledge discussion/activity	1.0	Plant/Logo cards
<u>Plant Observation Skills</u>	Develop observation skills/terminology (basic taxonomy activity)	1.0	Native plant part samples 3 species or more (1 of each species for every two students) especially leaves to be used in the following activities; Jeweler's loupes; Plant samples; Chalkboard or other; Book: <i>Plants of the Pacific Northwest</i> - Pojar and Mackinnon
<u>Plant Scramble Game- Fall Deciduous trees</u>	Plant memorization game to inspire learning for Fall- Deciduous trees	.75-1.0 (repeat throughout unit)	Plant parts, Name labels, Plant photos, Jeweler's loupes
<u>Fall Seasonal Native Plant ID Walk Deciduous trees</u>	Use school grounds to learn key field characteristics for deciduous trees <i>Note: 'Leaf Rubbings and Taxonomy' Activity is a good addition here</i>	.75-1.0	Plants of the Pacific Northwest Field guide; School grounds map; Seasonal native plant key characteristics lists/photos

Native Plant Communities - Fall

Title	Theme/ Activity	Time	Props/ tools
<u>Ecosystems of Washington- Rain shadow</u>	Examine the effects of weather patterns, make a drawing of rain shadow effect, discuss.	.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rain shadow drawing for reference • Drawing board (chalk board)
<u>Plant Community Slide show</u>	Watch an overview of plant communities in Washington, with an emphasis on plant communities of the Westside Lowland Forest.	1.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slide show, slide script • Celebrating Wildflowers plant communities lists
<u>Plant Community ID Walk</u>	Walk the school ground to identify plant community types using information learned from slide show.	.75	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School ground map • Plant communities lists (above)

Native Plant Propagation - Fall

Title	Theme/ Activity	Time	Props/ tools
<u>Native Plant Propagation</u>	Discuss plant propagation and see some of the techniques used to grow native plants.	.5- .75	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Propagation poster • Plant samples of propagation types
<u>Seed Propagation Activity</u>	Learn how to grow native plants from seeds.	1.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeds, flats • Potting soil • Labels • Latex gloves • Seed cover • Clothespins • Seed propagation literature from <i>Starflower Garden Steward Manual</i>

Native Plant Communities - Winter

Title	Theme/ Activity	Time	Props/ tools
<u>Ecosystems of Washington-Rain shadow</u>	Examine the effects of weather patterns, make a drawing of rain shadow effect, discuss.	.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rain shadow drawing for reference • Drawing board (chalk board)
<u>Plant Community Slide show</u>	Watch an overview of plant communities in Washington, with an emphasis on plant communities of the Westside Lowland Forest.	1.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slide show, slide script • Celebrating Wildflowers plant communities lists
<u>Plant Community ID Walk</u>	Walk the school ground to identify plant community types using information learned from slide show.	.75	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School ground map • Plant communities lists (above)
<u>Dead or Dormant</u>	Understand that not all plants die in winter, and gain knowledge about the difference between a dormant plant, a dead plant, and an herbaceous perennial.	1.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Images: “Dormant, Herbaceous and Dead” • ‘Starflower Plant ID Cards’ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Optional: 4”- 1 gallon containerized herbaceous perennial (ideally a ground cover species such as false lily of the valley, bleeding heart, iris, pearly everlasting, fireweed, lady fern) to show active underground root system with dead or nonexistent above ground growth.
<u>Plant Community Herbarium Project</u>	Collect portions of plants that show key field characteristics helpful for identification, press them for future use in identification, in ID booklets, for the plant community poster, and/or the ecosystem poster.	.75	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School ground map • Herbarium press • Plant communities list from above
<u>Plant Community Poster</u>	Use herbarium plants, color pictures and plant lists to create plant community posters based on key indicator plants.	1.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Color pictures – <i>Starflower Native Plant ID Cards</i> • Plant pressing or parts (dried) • Plant community lists • Poster board,