

# Botanical Bounty

*Come explore the plant treasures hidden in the forest at the Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies!*



**Contact:**

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**Standards addressed**

NY State: Elementary standards for math, science and technology:

Standard 1 (Analysis, inquiry and design):

- Observe and discuss objects and events and record observations

Standard 4 (Science) Major Understandings:

- 1.1b Plants require air, water, nutrients, and light in order to live and thrive.
- 3.1b Each plant has different structures that serve different functions in growth, survival, and reproduction.
- 5.2a Plants respond to changes in their environment
- 6.1a Green plants are producers because they provide the basic food supply for themselves and animals.

Standard 6 (Interconnectedness)

- Observe and describe interactions among components of simple systems

**Objectives**

- Students use their senses to discover the forest ecosystem and the role of plants in an ecosystem.
- Students can label the main plant parts on different types of plants.
- Students collect data about plant growth and illustrate their knowledge about what plants need to survive.

**Grade Level:** K-2

**Duration:** 2 hours

**Program Synopsis**

Introduction to Cary Institute	5 minutes
Plant Part Game (outside)	15 minutes
<b>Stations along the trail:</b>	
Touch Hunt. Students find parts of plants that have different textures and shapes.	15 minutes
Guess This Smell. Students smell different plants and think about plant protection	10 minutes
Old Field, Old Forest. Students think about the history of the forest and field while examining stone walls, an old hayfield and an old forest.	10 minutes
Where did all the water come from? Students examine plastic bags wrapped around leaves and decide where the water came from and how much water is in the bag.	15 minutes
Taste Mystery. Did you know that all of our meals are plants? Students trace the origins of their meals only to discover that all of our food comes from plants.	20 minutes
Plant Experiment (indoor). Students observe a plant experiment, discuss what all plants need to survive, and gather plant growth data.	10 minutes
Plant identification for budding botanists	20 minutes