

Budding Botanist

1st Grade Program

Description: Dig into the world of plant adaptations. An engaging lab, where students will get to practice their observation skills and study the leaves of real native plants found right here on the marsh!

Objectives:

- Name a plant's basic needs
- Define adaptations and explain why native plants would need adaptations to conserve water
- Use microscopes to examine leaves and determine their water-conserving adaptations
- Name one San Diego native plant species and explain how its leaves help it conserve water

Leaf Rubbing Station:

Demonstrate how to do a leaf rubbing using practice paper. Hold paper tight over leaf and rub with the side of the crayon or pencil.

Students can use practice paper with a few leaves and then do a final leaf rubbing on their worksheet. Allow students to practice with various leaves and choose their favorite. Help students identify their final leaves and write the name next to their drawing.

? SY[eUabW~ >Wx6 dSi [` YEfSf[a` :

Today, students are **Botanists** - scientists that study plants. As good scientists, everyone will record their observations on a worksheet.

Students draw one leaf as if looks under their magiscope. They can also draw the leaf as it looks with their eyes. Explain the difference between these two (magiscope makes leaf look a lot bigger with more details!)

Magiscopes Instructions:

- **1 magiscope** per student.
- Always keep the magiscope on the table or ground.
- Put leaf over the hole on the black stage
- Close one eye and put other eye over tube until eyelashes touch the top.
- Slowly move golden tube down until leaf is focused