

Plant Press Activity



The Milwaukee Public Museum's Botany department contains a research collection of 200,000 botanical specimens. Now, you can begin your own pressed-and-preserved plant specimen collection right at home with this activity!

Vocabulary Words:

Botany: the study of plants

Specimen: a sample; an object from the natural world not made by people

Materials Needed:

Plant or part of a plant (Suggestions: alfalfa sprouts, flowers, or petals; if it's only part of a plant, that's okay, just know that botanists would use the whole plant, roots and all, for research!)

2 squares of cardboard

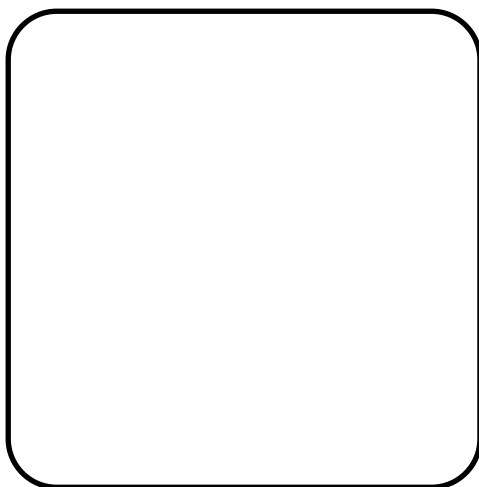
2 index cards



Directions:

1. Find a plant or part of a plant.
2. Press the plant between layers of cardboard and index cards (cardboard > index card > plant > index card > cardboard).
3. Use a rubber band to hold the cardboard and index cards together.
4. Fill out the information card below and keep it with your plant.
5. Your plant will be ready in approximately two weeks.

Specimen Card:



Draw specimen here.

Collector Name: _____

Date Collected: _____

Location: _____

Specimen Type: _____

Measurement (cm): _____

Color: _____

Notes: _____
