



FIRST GRADE

PRE AND POST VISIT ACTIVITIES

GEORGIA STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE

S1L1. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about the basic needs of plants and animals.

- Develop models to identify the parts of a plant—root, stem, leaf, and flower.
- Ask questions to compare and contrast the basic needs of plants (air, water, light, and nutrients) and animals (air, water, food, and shelter).

PRE-VISIT

GUIDING QUESTIONS

What are the parts of the plant and what are their functions?
How do leaves/flowers/stems/seeds/roots look different?
What do plants need to survive?

DISCOVER CARNIVOROUS PLANTS

Watch the video [Meat Eating Plants](#) by SciShow Kids. Carnivorous (meat-eating) plants capture and digest insects to get extra nutrients the soil is missing. Discuss how plants need nutrients to survive and how carnivorous plants adapted to capture those missing nutrients. The part of the carnivorous plant that captures animals are modified leaves, which means that over time, the leaves adapted to capture insects.

PLANT DISSECTION

Dig up an unwanted plant (often referred to as a weed). Have the students examine and discuss the different plant parts. Here is a [classroom guide](#) on dissecting a dandelion.

SCHOOLYARD WALK

Walk around the schoolyard and make observations about different plant parts. Can you find any plants with flowers or fruits? How do the stems/tree trunks look similar or different? Let the students choose one interesting plant to draw and then label with the plant's parts.

POST-VISIT

WRAP UP QUESTIONS

How do plant parts work together to meet the needs of a plant?
How do plants help animals meet their needs?
What did you observe about the differences in plant parts?
Why do you think plant parts look different on different plants?

ACTIVITY what a seed needs to sprout

Design an experiment to test out what bean seeds need to grow. Try planting seeds on paper vs. soil, in light vs. darkness, in warm temperatures vs. cool temperatures, and in wet vs. dry environments. Which seeds sprout? Track their growth and note which plant parts form first.

ACTIVITY design your own plant

Create your own plant using various art materials or by drawing/painting it on a piece of paper. How is your plant unique? How does your plant get water, sunlight or nutrients? Label the different plant parts.

SUGGESTED RESOURCES

[Plant Part Art](#) Atlanta Botanical Garden Video
[Tops and Bottoms](#) by Janet Stevens
[Reason for a Flower](#) by Ruth Heller
[Flowers are Calling](#) by Rita Gray and Kenard Pak
[A Fruit is a Suitcase for Seeds](#) by Jean Richards and Anca Hariton

[How to Grow Happiness](#) by Kelly DiPucchio and Matt Kaufenberg
[Are you a Cheeseburger?](#) by Monica Arnaldo
[Nature Stories: Little Acorn](#) OR [Nature Stories: Little Sunflower](#) by IglooBooks
[The Dandelion Seed](#) by Joseph P. Anthony and Cris Arbo



FIRST GRADE

THEMES

- Parts of a plant: root, stem, leaves, fruits, flowers and seeds
- What plants need to survive: air, water, light and nutrients

SUGGESTED DESTINATIONS

- Edible Garden
- Fuqua Conservatory
- Conservation Display Garden



GARDEN ACTIVITIES

PLANT PART COMPARISON

Location: Fuqua Conservatory (Desert House, Tropical Rotunda & Orchid Center)

Walk through the different rooms and discuss **how the plants look different and similar**

- Identify leaves, roots, stems and leaves in each room. What are some similarities and differences in plant parts between the various habitats?
- Which habitat has a lot of sunlight vs. little sunlight, a lot of water vs. not a lot of water?
- How do they think plants get what they need in these different habitats?

PARTS OF A PLANT YOU EAT

Location: Edible Garden

Can you see the different parts of a plant that we eat? See any fruits? Yummy leaves? Feel free to smell and gently touch, but please do not pick or taste.

KILLER PLANTS

Location: Conservation Display Garden

Look for carnivorous/meat-eating plants such as pitcher plants, Venus flytraps or sundews. What are some similarities and differences in plant parts between the various habitats?

- What do you see if you gently peek inside a pitcher plant trap?
- Explain that the leaves of these plants take in sunlight to make food just like in other plants. Unlike other plants, carnivorous plants also use their leaves to trap insects. Usually plants take in nutrients from the soil through their roots; however, meat-eating plants must trap prey since they live in nutrient poor soil.

SCAVENGER HUNT plant parts

Location: Everywhere

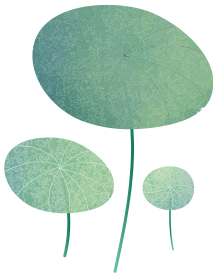
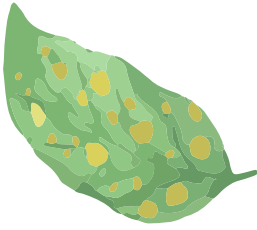
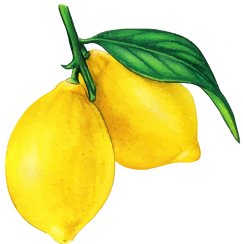
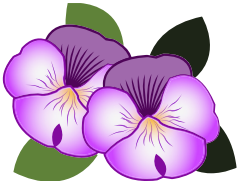
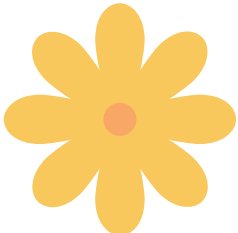
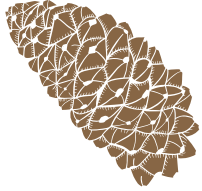
Using the Plant Parts Scavenger Hunt sheet, look for various plant parts at the Garden. On the backside, students can draw a plant they find and label its visible parts.



ATLANTA BOTANICAL GARDEN

Plant Parts Scavenger Hunt

Can you find a:

ROUND LEAF 	LEAF WITH SPOTS 	BIG LEAF 
SMALL LEAF 	GREEN STEM 	BROWN STEM 
FRUIT 	SEED 	FLOWER WITH 3 COLORS 
BIG FLOWER 	LITTLE FLOWER 	PINECONE 

NAME
