The Weird, Wild, Wacky and Wonderful World of Carnivorous Plants

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Each class is two hours per day.

Day 1: Sundews
Day 2: Butterworts
Day 3: Venus Flytraps and Waterwheels
Day 4: Pitcher Plants
Day 5: Bladderworts
Day 6: Parent Day

Daily Schedule

Housekeeping activities: Color name tags & put them on, check out progress of plantings, meet parent volunteers, on first day go over class rules.

Story time: Read a Victor Gentle Blood Thirsty Plant Series book to the class.

Meet the carnivorous plant of the day: Look, Touch, Smell.

Bugs in the Bell Jar: Fruit flies with the carnivorous plants of the day.

Workbook "educational" page: Answer review questions, color carnivorous plant picture.

Break: Go to drinking fountain and restrooms.

Creative expression activities.

Workbook "creative expression" page: Create own stories, poems, and pictures.

Creative Expression Activities

Sundew (Day 1)

Plant cape sundew seeds – these stay under grow lights in the classroom. Make sundews out of pipe cleaners, plant in a Styrofoam cup with tissue paper soil.

Butterwort (Day 2)

Propagate butterworts by leaf cuttings and divisions – these grow out in the classroom. Make butterwort bread – shake cream to make butter; spread it on green bread. Make an origami butterfly.

Venus flytrap (Day 3)

Make a VFT puppet out of a paper plate – the puppet "eats" the origami butterfly. Michael Szesze's Venus flytrap flip book.

Pitcher Plants (Day 4)

Put together pitcher plant jigsaw puzzles, answer habitat riddles.

Mold pitcher plants out of clay or make paper pitcher plants that catch paper flies.

Bladderwort (Day 5)

Meet the plant via video microscope "bug cam".

Use and eye dropper to simulate action of the bladderwort trap.

Act out action of bladderwort trap with people.

Paint like Georgia O'Keeffe – each person paints in their own style.

Make parent day invitations.

Final exam.