

Week 2, 1/16/2025 Module 1: Fundamentals

Facilitator: Ashley Helmholdt

Recording: https://vod.video.cornell.edu/media/Cornell+Garden-Based+Learning+Library+Short-Course/1_83gbxupg

Participants:

Maria Pitaro, Jodie Wilson, Amanda Colley, Jean Koshi, Marcie Foster, Fred Miller, Shawn Tubridy, Janet Reitz, Pam Hart, Celia Oxley, Emere Nieves, Karen Low, Carol, Donna Alese Cooke, Ashley Helmholdt

Module Introduction

- Introduction to the lessons
- Examples of thought questions:
 - Plant Biology THINK: Why might it be important for gardeners to know how to research and identify a plant's scientific name?
 - Beneficial Insects THINK: Are you already familiar with beneficial insects? Make a list of those.
 - Plant Pathology THINK: What plant diseases have you experienced in your garden endeavors?
- Hands-on activities from main learning library (["Garden-Based Learning Library"](#))
 - Flower parts
 - Herbaceous plants
 - Monocots and dicots (key)
 - Woody plants
 - Jar Test
 - Insect Orders
 - Diagnosing Plant Problems
 - Were designed to be done in rotation, 20 min each, in stations, to get a broad intro to plant types and morphology.
 - Could be done in a single "hands on" day, or split up, in whatever way works for your group

Breakout Rooms

Group 1: Right Plant, Right Place: The Jar Test/Soil Texture Activity

- Participants bring their own soil? Facilitator bring a variety?
- Participants bring their own soil? Facilitator bring a variety? Great visual to represent the science!
- Add in clay and sand
- Plant native plants in native soils!
- Fertilizers and peat - changing old practices to new research based practices is hard!

Group 2: Beneficial Insects: Insect Orders Activity

- Some found the focus on taxonomy to be a bit technical; would adapt to focus on an applied discussion of life stages, timing of problem solving etc
- Add a sheet with insect parts
- Squish or share! New Seed to Supper activity
- Group 3: Plant Pathology: Diagnosing Plant Problems Activity
- Share case studies/specific examples! (facilitator and/or participants)
- Practice process of asking the right question, which can be generalized to other situations (rather than trying to become an expert on the specifics)
- Know when you're in over your head, and ask for help
- Be cautious about recommending products (pesticides etc), as a rep of Cornell
- Plant Bingo! What questions they would ask when presented with the photos coming in

Campus links and Contacts:

Plant Pathology

- Karen Snover-Clift: Plant Pathology Lab Master Gardener Resources :
<https://plantclinic.cornell.edu/mastergardner.html>
- Margery Daughtrey: <https://cals.cornell.edu/margery-daughtrey>

Final Reminders:

- Facilitator guides to help with session planning (in main Learning Library: ["Garden-Based Learning Library"](#))
- Use judgment about which activities to do for effective learning!

Share the "Virtual and In-person Schedule of Hands-on activity" document

Next week:

Download and bring to next class:

(Correct links)

Hands-on Activities for Vegetable Gardening:

<https://dlc.cce.cornell.edu/mod/page/view.php?id=15178>

Hands-on Activities for Fruit Gardening

<https://dlc.cce.cornell.edu/mod/page/view.php?id=15179>

revised 1/21/2025