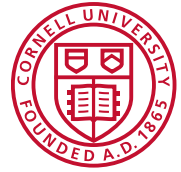


Cornell Cooperative Extension

Cornell Garden-Based Learning



Woody Plants Activity

Time: 20 Minutes

Supplies:

- A variety of woody plant samples including leaves and stems.
- Manual of Woody Plants handout

Objectives:

- **Consider** how plant characteristics are used in classification, identification and dichotomous keys.
- **Become familiar** with woody plant characteristics.

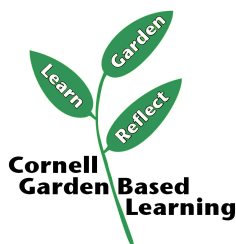
Directions:

Take 10 minutes to observe the variety of plant samples. Use your Manual of Woody Plants handout to notice key differences in leaf type, shape and arrangement. Then notice any differences in stem and bud morphology.

Once you've had some time to make your observations and take a few notes, get together with the others in your group to discuss the differences you've noticed.

Potential discussion questions:

- What are some key characteristics of woody plants? What themes did you notice throughout the plant samples?
- Did any of the characteristics on the plant samples puzzle you?
- Where might you find more information regarding woody plants?



References: *Manual of Woody Landscape Plants: Their Identification, Ornamental Characteristics, Culture, Propagation and Uses*. Michael A. Dirr, 1998, pg. xiv-xxviii.

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Building Strong and Vibrant New York Communities

Diversity and Inclusion are a part of Cornell University's heritage. We are a recognized employer and educator valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities.