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**Leaders:**

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KIDBLITZ ACTIVITIES- PLANTS DRAFT 3/27/09

## SELF GUIDED TRAIL

**GOAL:** Learn to recognize and name the most common species along the trails in the park

**MATERIALS:**

- Surveyor's flags
- Sharpie pen
- Quadrant and point transect tape
- List of common species (below)

**RESOURCE PEOPLE:**

Jean Paul, Punnee Soonthornpoc

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Walk the trail and put in a flag at each new species encountered; write the name of the plant on the flag
2. Instruct kids to
  - a. find the next flag
  - b. try to name the plant from memory
  - c. check for accuracy on the flag
  - d. write the name on your list
  - e. talk about what kinds of animals might get food or shelter from this plant
3. Bring your plant list to the plant booth for a stamp on your passport

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

FLAGS FOR SELF GUIDED TRAIL

Category	Common Name	Genus	species
forbs	bluebonnet	Lupinus	texana
forbs	paintbrush	Castilleja	indivisa
forbs	prairie phlox	Phlox	pilosa
forbs	henbit	Lamium	amplexicaule
forbs	false garlic	Nothoscordum	bivalve

forbs	wild onion	Allium	canadense
forbs	meadow beauty		
forbs	dotted blue eyed grass	Sisyrinchium	pruinatum
forbs	vetch	Vicia	
forbs		Bidens	bipinata
forbs	common sow thistle	Sanctus	oleraceus
forbs	aster	Asteraceae	
forbs	toad flax	Linaria	vulgaris
forbs	fleabane	Erigeron	
forbs	white sweet clover	Melilotus	albus
forbs	prairie spiderwort	Tradescantia	occidentalis
forbs	scarlet gaura	Gaura	coccinea
forbs	showy primrose	Oenothera	speciosa
forbs	winecup	Callirhoe	
forbs	Texas vervain	Verbenia	halei
forbs	scarlet pimpernel		
forbs	buttercup	Ranunculus	
forbs	scrambled eggs	Cordalis	
forbs	chickweed	Stellaria	
forbs	Texas squaw-weed	Senecio	ampullaceous
forbs	bedstraw?	Gallium	
grass	bluestem		
grass	indian grass		
grass	sedge	Carex	
invader	bermuda		
invader	honeysuckle		
invader	privet		
shrub	beauty berry; French mulberry		
shrub		Nissia	
shrub	palmetto		
shrub- berry	yaupon		
tree	red oak		
tree	white oak		
tree	post oak		
tree	winged elm		
tree	tupelo		
vine	dewberry	Rubus	
vine	poison ivy		
vine	virginia creeper		
vine	smilax; green briar		

# LEAF RUBBINGS

**GOAL:** Learn to recognize and name the most common species along the trails in the park

**MATERIALS:**

- leaves
- crayons
- paper
- guide to trees & shrubs

**RESOURCE PEOPLE:**

Jean Paul, Punnee Soonthornpoc

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Ask kids to pick up as many different leaves on the ground as they can find
2. Sort out which ones are from trees and which are from shrubs, by comparing with the plants growing nearby
3. Discard duplicates for each species
4. Place paper over leaf and rub crayon on paper
5. Write the name of the plant, encourage kid to draw a picture of whether it is a tree or shrub

**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

Common plants of Texas is in the information binder in the Plant Trunk