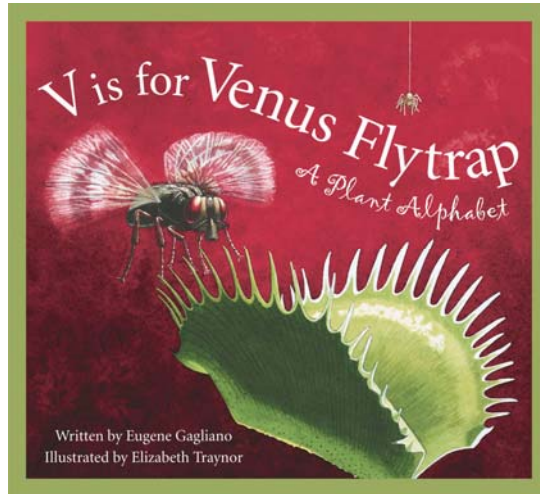


Teacher's Guide



V is for Venus Flytrap: A Plant Alphabet

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V IS FOR VENUS FLYTRAP

ALPHABETICAL ANNUALS



Everyone likes to see flowers in bloom. They not only look beautiful but many have a wonderful scent. Plants that last only one season and then die are called annuals. Discover more about annuals in the book *V is for Venus Flytrap*.

Leslie dropped her stack of note cards containing the names of the annual flowers for her garden. She wants her plant name cards to be in alphabetical order! Please help her!

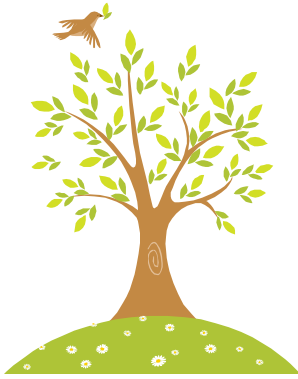
petunia	bachelor button	zinnia	begonia	
marigold	snapdragon	petunia		
nasturtium	coleus	cosmos	heliotrope	sunflower

Put the flowers in alphabetical order on the lines below.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____

V IS FOR VENUS FLYTRAP

A Tree Riddle



Trees are large plants. Children enjoy lying under the shade of a tree, climbing a tree, and hiding behind trees. There is nothing better than finding a large shady spot under a tree on a hot summer day.

The riddles describe the parts of a tree. Use the word box to help you solve each riddle.

bark

roots

seeds

trunk

leaves

1. Insects and weather can't get by me.
My job is to protect the tree
I am the _____
2. Birds and the wind carry me to and fro.
They drop me down and a new tree I grow.
I am the _____
3. Deep in the ground I spread and grow,
just so the tree can stand tall in a row.
I am the _____
4. I keep the tree from being hungry.
I work with the sun and sleep under the moon.
I am the _____
5. I am the center of every tree.
Children hang on as they climb up me.
I am the _____



V is for Venus Flytrap

Leaves or Needles?

Coniferous and deciduous are two types of trees. Conifers keep their needles year round while deciduous trees lose their leaves yearly.

Place each tree from the word box below in the list that describes it.

Red Maple	Oak	Douglas Fir	Cherry
White Pine	Blue Spruce	Black Gum	
Flowering Dogwood		Cedar	

Coniferous

Deciduous

Draw a picture of your favorite type of tree.

V IS FOR VENUS FLYTRAP

Bamboo Math



Bamboo is a fast-growing plant that is the main food source of pandas.

Assume that pandas eat 32 pounds of bamboo daily. Assume that bamboo grows $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet per day.

Using those two assumptions, solve these problems.

1. Joe found a bamboo stalk that was 25 feet tall. How many days had it been growing? _____
2. Paula Panda eats only bamboo. How many pounds of bamboo would she eat in 2 weeks? _____
3. The bamboo forest had trees 10 feet tall, 21 feet tall, 42 feet tall, and 3 feet tall. What was the average height of these trees? _____



4. If one bamboo stalk grew $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet a day for 30 days, how tall would it be? _____

V IS FOR VENUS FLYTRAP

The Mixed-Up Greengrocer

A greengrocer is a merchant who sells fruits and vegetables. What is your favorite fruit? _____ What is your favorite vegetable? _____
Bob, the greengrocer, dropped all the signs he had with the names of the fruits and vegetables on them. The letters got all mixed up. Help Bob by unscrambling the names of these fruits and vegetables.

1. stebe

2. ronc

3. pleap

4. eettlcu

5. pcaeh

6. crarot

7. mttoa

8. ape

9. yrrebeulb

10. oaavcod

11. rcrehy

12. prpepe

13. nukppmi

14. snbae

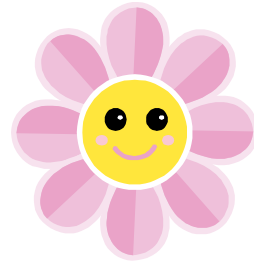
15. perag



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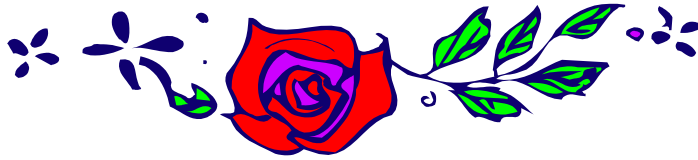
Growing Zones



The zone map on the Z page of *V is for Venus Flytrap* will help you answer the questions below. Use the map and the key in your search for answers.

1. Name the state with the coldest zone _____
 2. Name the state with the hottest zone _____
 3. If oranges required a zone 9 to grow, would you be able to grow them outside in the state of Illinois? _____
 4. In which zone is most of Canada? _____
 5. If a plant could not survive in temperatures below 0 degrees, what is the lowest number zone you could plant it in? _____
 6. Why can't you grow pineapple in Michigan? _____
 7. Name the state with the initials KS _____
 8. Name the Canadian province BC _____
 9. Name the country directly south of the United States _____
 10. Can you grow vegetables outside in Alaska? _____
- List the temperature zones in your state or province _____
- What is the temperature zone in your town? _____
- What vegetables and fruit are grown in your town? _____

V IS FOR VENUS FLYTRAP ROSE MATH



People love to smell roses, look at roses, and grow roses. Dawn planted 100 rosebushes but a frost killed many of them. Use the problems below to figure out how many were left after the frost.

Cross out all of the problems that have wrong answers. Add up all the correct answers to find how many rosebushes survived.

1. $55 - 29 = 26$

2. $24 + 96 = 123$

3. $17 + 5 = 23$

4. $125 - 96 = 29$

5. $95 - 87 = 15$

6. $113 - 93 = 20$

7. $99 - 86 = 13$

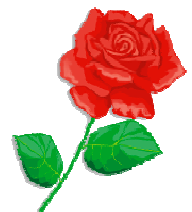
8. $52 + 29 = 71$

9. $200 - 81 = 121$

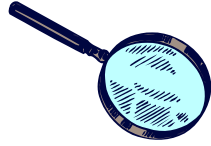
10. $576 - 499 = 177$

Add all correct answers.

The total number of roses saved was _____



V IS FOR VENUS FLYTRAP



Seek & Find

The answer to each of the questions below can be found in the book *V is for Venus Flytrap*. Search hard for the answers, as some of them may be tricky.

1. Are raw dandelion leaves healthy to eat? _____
2. An annual plant's life cycle lasts for how many years? _____
3. What do we call insect-eating plants? _____
4. Name the author of *V is for Venus Flytrap*. _____
5. How old is the tree named "Methuselah"? _____
6. Name the state that grows the most corn. _____
7. If you wanted to get rid of your bad breath, which herb would you eat to clean your breath? _____
8. Trees absorb _____ from our atmosphere and give off _____
9. Name the flower that smells like rotting flesh. _____
10. Where does kelp grow? _____

Write a sentence describing something new you learned about plants in this book. _____

V IS FOR VENUS FLYTRAP

IT'S RAINING! IT'S POURING !

Rain forests receive at least 80 inches of rain per year. How much rain is that? Let's find out!

Use a yardstick to measure off 80 inches on the floor of your classroom.

List 3 things that are about 80 inches long. _____

1. How many feet are in 80 inches? _____
2. How many yards are in 80 inches? _____
3. Find the yearly average number of inches of rain in your town. _____

List 5 reasons rain and rain forests are important to the world.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

Draw a picture of you exploring the rain forest.

V IS FOR VENUS FLYTRAP

What's in Your Cereal?

A bowl of cereal makes a yummy breakfast. But, how healthy is your bowl of cereal? Breakfast cereals are made of grains.

Compare 4 different brands of cereal to see if they are healthy. Choose 4 cereals and read the nutrition information on the side of the box. Fill in the information in each box below.

Which cereal would be the BEST choice for a healthy breakfast? _____

Name _____
Grain _____
Calories per serving _____
Sugar per serving _____
Sodium per serving _____

Name _____
Grain _____
Calories per serving _____
Sugar per serving _____
Sodium per serving _____

Name _____
Grain _____
Calories per serving _____
Sugar per serving _____
Sodium per serving _____

Name _____
Grain _____
Calories per serving _____
Sugar per serving _____
Sodium per serving _____

V IS FOR VENUS FLYTRAP

Make Your Own Compost Pile



Our earth has limited resources and it is the responsibility of each one of us to conserve our resources. How can you help? One way is by composting at home. It is interesting to watch a compost pile de-compose.

1. Choose an area in your yard that won't be disturbed by others or animals.
2. Collect fallen leaves, grass, and sticks and make a pile. You can throw vegetable scraps on your pile but don't put meat scraps on it.
3. Wet your pile weekly with a hose and use a rake to stir your pile.

Use the chart below to record the changes you see in your pile over time. Keep this chart from when you start your pile until spring. Record data every two weeks.



Date

Condition of the pile

V IS FOR VENUS FLYTRAP

Create a New Plant!

Plants are a necessary part of our daily lives. What would the earth be like without plants? They give off oxygen, are used as food, and help to keep us cool. Green flowering plants have six parts: root, stem, leaf, flower, fruit, and seed.

Create a new plant species. Draw your plant below and label its six parts. Give your plant a name.

Explain what makes your plant special.

V IS FOR VENUS FLYTRAP

An Experiment with Plants and Light



How much sunlight do plants need to grow? Does it make a difference if you start them from seeds or if they are already growing? This experiment will help you to discover the answers to these questions.

Materials

3 small potted plants. Plants should be of the same species and in the same size pots.

3 small pots (the same size as those above) containing potting soil and seeds.

Directions

1. Plant your seeds in all three pots.
2. Place one plant pot and one seed pot in a very sunny place. Make sure it gets full sun all day.
3. Place one plant pot and one seed pot in a partly sunny place. These pots should spend at least $\frac{1}{2}$ of the daylight hours in the shade.
4. Place one plant pot and one seed pot in an area that gets very little sun.
5. Water all plants daily.

Create a chart showing the growth of each set of pots.

Full Sun

Partial Sun

Shade

What did you discover about plants and light? _____

V IS FOR VENUS FLYTRAP

Making a Biome Flip Book

A biome is a large similar group of plant communities created by climate. Rain forests, jungles, freshwater, ocean, and desert are all types of biomes.

Chose one of the above biomes and make a flip book showing plants and animals that can be found in your biome. Draw a picture of a plant or animal and write 3 sentences describing it on each page. Don't forget to color your drawings.

Flip book directions

1. Stack three sheets of paper so that each sheet is one inch lower than the sheet above it.
2. Fold the bottoms of the three sheets up so that each of the layers are equal distance apart.
3. Staple your stack together along the folded edge.
4. Use the top sheet as your cover. This should have a general picture and title of your biome on the cover.
5. Draw pictures and write descriptions of your biome on each sheet inside.
6. Color your pictures.
7. Share your book with a friend!

Which biome did you choose? _____

V IS FOR VENUS FLYTRAP

No Yard to Grow Plants? No Worry!



Many people live in an apartment or a home where they don't have a yard of their own. Can they still grow flowers and vegetables? Of course they can! All they need is a container, some seeds, and a sunny window. Container gardening is a very popular way of gardening. Give it a try!

Materials

Planter, flower pot, or anything that will hold soil and still drain well

Potting soil or dirt

Seeds of your choice

Small stones or gravel

A sunny window or balcony

Directions

1. Make sure your container has holes in the bottom or sides for water to drain out.
2. Spread gravel on the inside bottom of the container.
3. Fill container 2/3 full with dirt or potting soil.
4. Mix the soil so there are no lumps.
5. Plant seeds according to seed packet directions, or plant a small plant that is already growing.
6. Water the seeds or plant.
7. Place the container in a sunny window or on a balcony or porch.
8. Keep soil moist but don't over water!
9. Be patient and watch your plant grow.
10. Enjoy your flower or vegetable.

V IS FOR VENUS
FLYTRAP

FANTASTIC FRUIT!



Fantastic fruit is just one of the many plants you can learn about in the book *V is for Venus Flytrap*. Can you eat a Venus flytrap? Read and find out!

Fruits are divided into different categories. List at least 3 fruits in each category and then draw a picture of your favorite fruit in each category.

Botanical Fruits

Citrus Fruits

Berry Fruits

Orchard Fruits

V IS FOR VENUS FLYTRAP

Plan a Healthy Meal

Everyone needs to eat well-balanced meals. Plants should be a huge part of your daily diets. Research the current food guide pyramid and use it to plan a balanced day of meals for your family.



Breakfast

Lunch

Dinner

V IS FOR VENUS FLYTRAP

The Poetry of Trees



Trees are all around us. It doesn't matter if you live in the city or in the country, it won't take much looking to find a tree growing near you.

Find a comfortable spot to sit and think about trees, preferably outside under a tree!

Answer these questions about the tree you're thinking about.

1. What does the tree look like? _____

2. What does the tree smell like? _____
3. What does the bark feel like? _____
4. Describe a leaf _____
5. What does the tree sound like? _____
6. Describe the shape of the tree _____

Use this information to write a poem about your tree.

V IS FOR VENUS FLYTRAP



THE LAYERS OF THE RAIN FOREST

Rain forests are an important part of our world's ecosystem. Many yet-to-be-discovered plants and animals live in the rain forest. There are four distinct layers in the rain forest.

1. The **forest floor**—the floor of the rain forest—covered with moss and decaying leaves and small plants like ferns.
2. The **understory**—contains woody plants, palms, and young trees that can grow in the shadows of the next higher layer.
3. The **canopy**—trees reaching as much as 100 feet tall, forming a green roof over the forest below.
4. The **emergent layer**—trees that grow very tall, taller than those in the canopy. They receive full sun.

Draw and label the rain forest and each of its layers.

V IS FOR VENUS FLYTRAP

LET'S GROW A SALAD



Your class can have fun by growing its own salad! Study the different vegetables in *V is for Venus Flytrap* and decide which vegetables would make a good tasting, healthy salad.

Divide the class into small groups. Each group will need the following materials.

Materials

Flower pots

Vegetable seeds—divide the types of vegetables between groups

Potting soil

Procedure

1. fill flower pot with potting soil
2. carefully read the seed package and plant the seeds according to the directions
3. water your seeds
4. keep soil moist, check daily
5. place the pot in a sunny window
6. when the class vegetables are grown, harvest, and make a class salad

List your favorite vegetables.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

V IS FOR VENUS FLYTRAP

A Tale of the Super Venus Flytrap!



Discover the amazing insect-eating Venus flytrap in the book *V is for Venus Flytrap*.

Pretend the Venus flytrap became so big and strong that they could devour animals and even people! Write a story about your encounter with a **Super Venus Flytrap!**

Draw an illustration to go with your story.

V IS FOR VENUS FLYTRAP

WHAT IF?

Use your knowledge about plants and your imagination and creative thinking as you answer each of these questions.

1. What would happen if a tomato had wings? _____

2. What would happen if there was no pollution? _____

3. How would you feel if you were an epiphyte growing in a jungle?

4. How would you feel if you were a rafflesia plant and everyone made bad faces when they were near you? _____

5. How would it feel if you were an apple and someone just took a big bite out of you? _____

V IS FOR VENUS FLYTRAP MAKE A XERISCAPE



Discover what a xeriscape is by reading *V is for Venus Flytrap*, and why it is important in some areas.

1. Make a list of plants and animals that can survive in the desert.
2. Use a sheet of paper to plan your desert.
3. Make a model of a desert and its plants and animals in a shoebox.

Write a paragraph explaining why xeriscape is important to the planet.

V IS FOR VENUS FLYTRAP

ANSWER SHEET

Alphabetical Animals- bachelor button, begonia, coleus, cosmos, heliotrope, marigold, nasturtium, pansy, petunia, snapdragon, sunflower, zinnia

A Tree Riddle- 1) bark 2) seeds 3) roots 4) leaves 5) trunk

Leaves or Needles- Conifer- Douglas Fir, Blue Spruce, Cedar, White Pine
Deciduous- Red Maple, Oak, Cherry, Black Gum, Flowering Dogwood

Bamboo Math- 1) 10 days 2) 448 3) 19 ft. 4) 75 ft.

The Mixed-Up Greengrocer- 1) beets 2) corn 3) apple 4) lettuce
5) peach 6) carrot 7) tomato 8) pea 9) blueberry 10) avocado
11) cherry 12) pepper 13) pumpkin 14) beans 15) grape

Temperature Zones- 1) Alaska 2) Hawaii 3) no 4) 2 5) zone 7
6) too cold 7) Kansas 8) British Columbia 9) Mexico 10) yes

Rose Math- Incorrect answers- 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 10 88 left

Seek and Find- 1) yes 2) one 3) carnivorous 4) Eugene Gagliano
5) 4,733 6) Iowa 7) parsley 8) carbon dioxide, oxygen 9) rafflesia
10) ocean

It's raining, It's pouring- 1) 6 ft. 8 in. 2) 2 yds. 8 inches