



What's Happening in the Bog?

A Guide to the Plants and Animals of the Duggan Leatherleaf Bog

Created by 6th Graders at Duggan Middle School

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Copycat Press 2006

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INTRODUCTION

Hi, we are the rooms of 105, 106, and 109 in the Duggan 6th grade class of 2006 in Mr. Palmer's class. You are about to read the best guidebook ever made. All the students worked really hard. We each did a page for our plant and animal. But of course we had excellent help from our Science and English teachers. From reading this book we hope to inspire you to come to Duggan to experience what we did.

Inside this book you will see detailed research that all the students have put into this wonderful guide. The three classes have gone out into the bogs and collected different types of plants and taken pictures of the things they found. If you continue to read you will find the pictures and the research about the things you can find in the bog, and even things found in the area. There are two bogs, one vernal pool, and a large area of sand called the sand pit. This was just a summary of what you can find in this guide.

The plants are organized by botanical families, what they look like, how they grow, or some combination of the three. The organization is meant to make it easier to find and identify the plants. Browsing through and looking at the pictures is probably just as good a way to find out the information you need.

Enjoy the guidebook and explore the Duggan Leatherleaf Bog.

PLANTS

White Pine
Pinus alba



Pitch Pine
Pinus rigida



Red Spruce
Picea rubens



Red Spruce

Picea rubens

DESCRIPTION

The Red Spruce grows up to about 60 to 70 feet. The leaves on the Red Spruce are dark green needles. They're in groups of 4. They grow up to 5 inches long. The bark is grayish brown on the surface and more reddish brown beneath with irregular, fine flaky patches. The flower grows up to 1 or 2 inches. The cones are green to purple and reddish brown when mature. The form of the tree is a conical crown.

HABITAT

The Red Spruce is found in the west of Maine, south into central New York, Eastern Pennsylvania, north New Jersey, Massachusetts, Maryland, and North Carolina. The Red Spruce grows in well drained soil in mountain forests, usually above 3,500 feet. Also it can be found along the border of streams, swamps, and bogs. It's located next to Duggan Middle School in the bog. The Red Spruce is found in a lot of places.

INTERESTING FACTS

You can take the gum from the tree and eat it. The Red Spruce is closely related to the Black Spruce, and hybrids between the two are common where their ranges meet.

by Latysha



Yew

Taxus baccata



Juniper

Juniperis communis

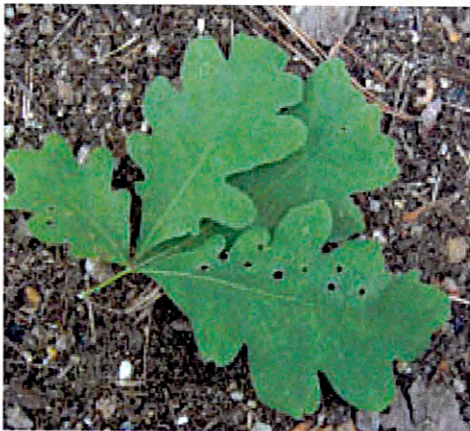


Northern Red Oak
Quercus rubra

Scarlet Oak
Quercus coccinea



White Oak
Quercus alba



Northern Red Oak *Quercus rubra*

DESCRIPTION

The Red Oak is very tall, from 60 to 90 feet. The leaves are 4 to 9 inches long and dull light green. The acorns are egg shaped.

HABITAT

The Red Oak likes to grow in sandy, moist, rocky, and clay soils. It grows on the eastern half of the country.

INTERESTING FACTS

It is the most important lumber species of Red Oak. The lumber is used for flooring, furniture, fences, and railroad ties. The tree is handsome. The Red Oak is one of the fastest growing Oaks.

by Dominic

Scarlet Oak

Quercus coccinea

DESCRIPTION

The leaves are alternate, simple, 3 to 7 inches long, oval in shape with very deep sinuses and bristle-tipped lobes. They are shiny green above, paler and generally hairless underneath. The bark on young trees is gray-brown with smooth streaks, later becoming darker and developing irregular broad ridges, with narrow furrows especially near the base.

HABITAT

It is found in the forest part of the Leatherleaf Bog. It grows in upland sites, such as ridges and middle and upper slope. It grows in a variety of soils, doing well on poor, dry, sandy, or gravelly soil.

INTERESTING FACTS

It's family is Fagaceae. The genus is *Quercus* and the subgenus is *Erythrobalanus*. The species is *coccinea*. The species are scarlet oak, red oak, and black oak.

by Sasha

White Oak

Quercus alba

DESCRIPTION

The White Oak is about 60 to 80 feet tall. The leaves on the tree are bumpy and acorns are attached. The bark is 2 inches thick.

HABITAT

The White Oak is found in North and South America. It grows in warm and dry weather and some wetlands. The White Oak is fairly tolerant of a variety of habitats. It is located in the Leatherleaf Bog near the vernal pool.

INTERESTING FACTS

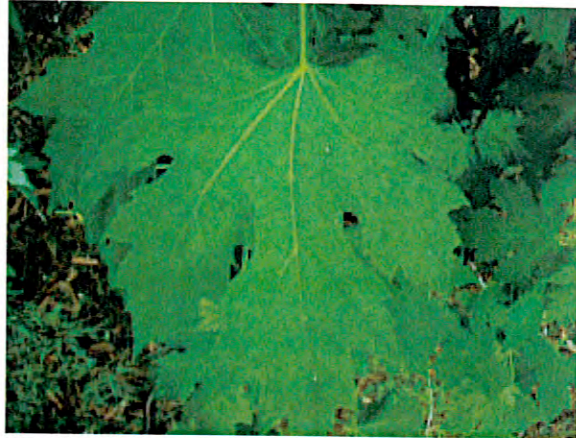
The White Oak is one of the most magnificent of all the Oaks. White Oak is sold in woodworking stores. Builders use the wood to construct houses.

by Sarah



Sugar Maple

Acer saccharum



Silver Maple

Acer saccharinum



Red Maple

Acer rubra

Sugar Maple

Acer saccharum

DESCRIPTION

The Sugar Maple can grow up to 100 feet tall. The leaves grow from 8 to 5 cm long. Sometimes the bark is smooth and sometimes it is hard and bumpy. The flowers look like berries. The leaves look like the usual 3 pointy sides.

HABITAT

Usually you can find the Sugar Maple in the northern U.S. The Sugar Maple tree can be found in sand loams. Just to let you know a loam is a mixture of sand and clay. If you look in the Leatherleaf Bog you will probably find some in the forest area.

INTERESTING FACTS

The Sugar Maple tree sap can be made into maple syrup. They make the sap into syrup by boiling it for many hours. The syrup can be made into candy. The sap can be used to make butterscotch.

by Keisha

Silver Maple

Acer saccharinum

DESCRIPTION

The size of the silver maple is approximately 80 feet tall and that's a medium sized tree. The leaves are about 6 inches long with about five lobes. A Silver Maple's bark is gray and becomes furrowed. The flowers in the tree start as reddish buds and turn yellow and grow in clusters.

HABITAT

The Silver Maple is mostly found in the Midwest and East from Maine to Florida. It also seems to grow where there's moist soil and near streams and swamps.

INTERESTING FACTS

Silver Maple trees grow quickly but they are often damaged or knocked over by wind and ice. It is also used to make furniture, flooring, boxes, crates, and pallets.

by Luis

Red Maple

Acer rubrum

DESCRIPTION

The Red Maple tree is medium sized, up to 90 feet. The leaves are up to 2 to 4 inches long green above and white and sometimes hairy beneath. The bark of young trees is smooth and gray. In forests the trunk is usually clear for some distance. The seeds are attractive but small, occur in hanging clusters, are usually bright red but occasionally yellow, and appear in early spring usually before the leaves. They are clusters of 1/2 to 3/4 inch long samaras with slightly divergent wings, on long slender stems. They are light brown and often reddish and ripen in late spring and early summer.

HABITAT

The Red Maple is found along the Appalachian Mountain chain from northern Georgia though central New England. The Red Maple in the Leatherleaf Bog is found upslope from the wetland.

INTERESTING FACTS

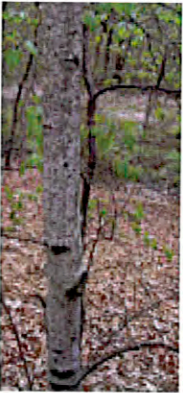
Red Maple is the state tree of Rhode Island. There is a Japanese Red Maple tree. There is a Red Maple Inn. The Red Maple is related to the Sugar and Silver Maple.

by Branden



Black Birch

Betula lenta



Grey Birch

Betula populifolia



White Birch

Betula papyrifera

Black Birch

Betula lenta

DESCRIPTION

This is a very unique tree. This tree is also known as the Sweet Tree. It has a narrow trunk of two to three feet. The Black Birch can be as high as fifty to sixty feet. Its leaves are very amazing. I say this because I found that it could be described in so many ways. The leaves are wide with a double row of fine sharp pointed edges. The bark is smooth, it is a very dark red, it is red enough to confuse with black. To some people the bark looks shredded. The best part about the Black Birch is that it has no poisonous lookalikes.

HABITAT

The Black Birch can be found along the east coast and the Appalachian Mountains. The Black Birch can also be found in a moist forest or in an open area. In the Leatherleaf Bog it grows close to the water.

INTERESTING FACTS

The twigs of the Sweet Tree smell and taste like wintergreen. It does create sap, but only three to four weeks after the Sugar Maple. In case of emergency the inner bark can be used as food.

by Bianca

Gray Birch

Betula populifolia

DESCRIPTION

Gray Birch is one of the largest native birches. It has wide triangular toothed leaves that are dark green. The bark is white with dark branches and a couple black spots. Grey birch peels very easily and burns fast. The leaves turn reddish brown and have black spots in the fall.

HABITAT

It needs moist soil to grow and it is found in Canada, southeastern Manitoba, throughout southern Ontario and Quebec to southern New Foundland, New England and the eastern seaboard.

INTERESTING FACTS

Lots of wildlife like birds, rodents, and deer eat the flowers, seeds, buds, and branches of the Grey Birch. Historically the wood was used to make barrels and furniture.

by Jaime

White Birch

Betula papyrifera

DESCRIPTION

The size of the plant is 70 to 80 feet tall. The leaves are simple and rigid. The bark of this tree is white. There are no flowers on this tree. The White Birch's skin can peel off very quickly.

HABITAT

You can find this plant all over North America. The kind of areas it grows in are in the forested areas. It also grows in cold places. The place that it's located in the Leatherleaf Bog is in the forest area where it's cool and nice. It also grows around the ponds.

INTERESTING FACTS

The White Birch is a very important sources of food for insects and birds. The bark of the White Birch was used by the Native Americans to build houses and canoes.

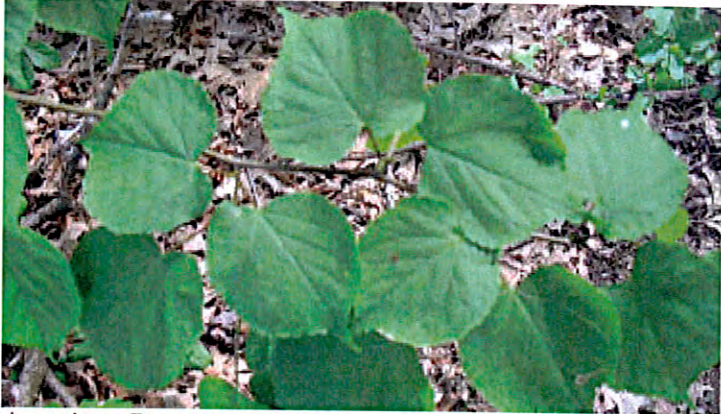
by Jhonathan



Muscledwood



Carpinus caroliniana



American Basswood

Tilia americana



Slippery Elm

Ulmus rubra

Muscledwood

Carpinus caroliniana

DESCRIPTION

It is a small shrubby tree. The trunk is sort of angled and it can grow up to 30 feet. The leaves are from 2-4.5 inches long and 1-2.5 inches wide. The bark is bluish gray, thin, and smooth. The flowers are tiny and grow in the early spring.

DESCRIPTION

They grow mostly in moist rich soil areas and they usually grow around streams where they can get water. In the Leatherleaf Bog they grow around the edges of the ponds.

INTERESTING FACTS

The Europeans call the tree a Hornbean, horn means toughness and bean for tree. The wood is very strong and used for axe handles and other things. Usually the twigs are eaten by deer and it's a part of the birch wood family.

by Jerry

American Basswood

Tilia americana

DESCRIPTION

The leaves are dark green and heart shaped. The leaves are 5 to 6 inches long with uneven base and sharp edges.

HABITAT

In the United States it is found in the northeast and midwest. It grows in moist soils of valleys and uplands in hard wood forests. In the Leatherleaf Bog there is a small Basswood on your left immediately after you enter the forest.

INTERESTING FACTS

The wood is good for making boxes, furniture, and yard sticks. Indians made ropes and woven mats from the tough fibrous inner bark.

by Jean

Slippery Elm

Ulmus rubra

DESCRIPTION

This plant is very beautiful. Its size is 40 meters if it is growing in moist soil. The leaves start appearing in February to May depending on the weather and location. The seeds ripen from April to June. The flowers appear in the spring before the leaves. It grows best on moist rich soils, lower slopes, stream banks, rivers, terraces, and bottoms.

HABITAT

In the US it's found in the midwest and northeast. In the Leatherleaf Bog it grows right next to the school yard.

INTERESTING FACTS

Slippery Elm wood is used commercially for the some products like paneling and cantinas. The seeds are eaten by birds and small animals.

by Efrain



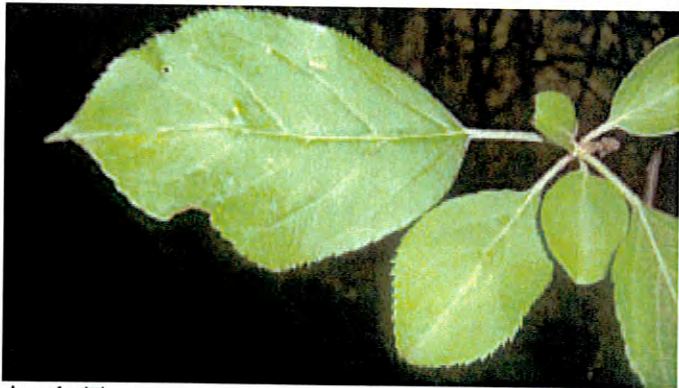
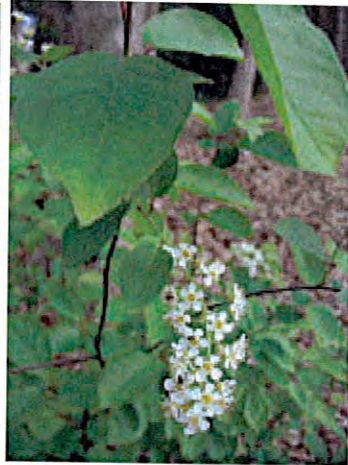
Flowering Dogwood



Cornus florida



Chokecherry
Prunus serotina



Apple Tree

Malus sylvestris

Flowering Dogwood *Cornus florida*

DESCRIPTION

This plant is tall; it grows up to 15 feet. The leaves are opposite, simple, acute oval, and 6-13 cm long and 4-6 cm wide. They turn a dark rich red color in autumn. The bark is rough looking and broken into small square blocks. While most of the flowers are white, some Dogwood trees also have pink, and some turn into a rich red brown.

HABITAT

They usually grow in shady and mostly warm places. They usually grow in the forest with lots of trees. In the Leatherleaf Bog it is on the shore of the bigger bog.

INTERESTING FACTS

When gently pulled apart the leaves demonstrate a silk like texture like a spider web. They typically flower in early April or May in northern and high altitudes. Underneath the flowers there are large snowy white petal-like bracts.

by Tia

Common Choke Cherry

Prunus virginiana

DESCRIPTION

The Chokecherry is 20 feet (6m) tall. The leaves are 1 ½ - 3 ¼ inches (4-8cm) long. The leaves are like a greenish color. The bark is brown or gray, smooth or becoming scaly. The Chokecherry flowers come out in April or May.

HABITAT

The Chokecherry grows southeast to North Carolina and southwest California. It grows in moist soils especially along streams and mountains. It also grows in forest borders, clearings, and roadsides. It grows all over the Leatherleaf Bog.

INTERESTING FACTS

The berries are dark red or blackish chokecherry. It is poisonous. You can get very sick if you eat the berries.

by Tim

Apple Tree

Malus sylvestris

DESCRIPTION

The Malus can grow up to 18 feet. The bark's colors are red and green. It is also scaly. The leaf is an alternate simple leaf. The Malus can grow flowers in different places. The colors are pink, red, and white. The Malus also produces apples.

HABITAT

The Malus can be found in the forested part of the bog

INTERESTING FACTS

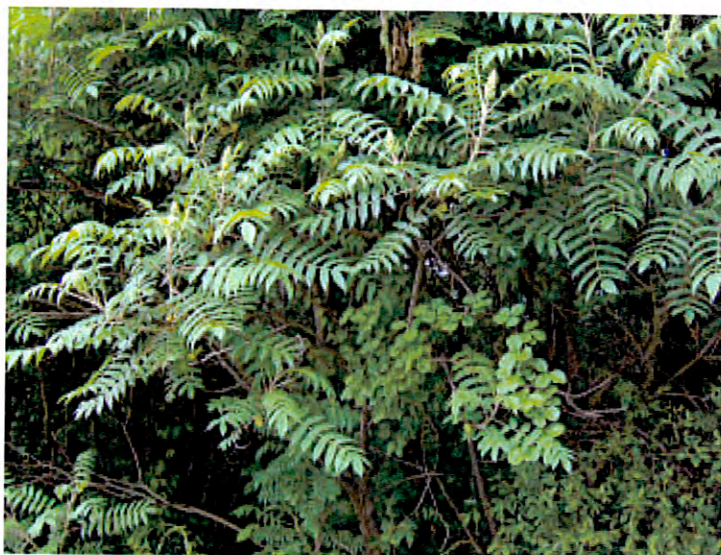
The flowers that it produces are pink. If the flower is pink then the apple is domesticated. They produce apples. They are red. Some of them are also green. People use apples to make pies, applesauce, apple juice, cider, and to eat.

by Mariah



Black Locust

Robinia pseudoacacia



Staghorn Sumac

Rhus typhina

Black Locust

Robinia pseudoacacia

DESCRIPTION

The Black Locust is sometimes called the Yellow Locust. It can be between 40 and 100 feet tall. The bark is green and smooth when the plant is young but when it is grown the bark is brown and rough. Each leaf is made up of little leaflets. Leaflets are dark green on top and pale on the bottom.

HABITAT

The Black Locust grows the best in rich, moist limestone soil. It can be found in the east of North America and in some parts of the West. In the Leatherleaf Bog it can be found around the sand pit area.

INTERESTING FACTS

The Black Locust grows very fast when it is young. It also is called a nitrogen fixer, which means it can take nitrogen from the air and use it. It can be used as wood for fires and also provides homes for different animals in the forest.

by Brandon

Staghorn Sumac

Rhus typhina

DESCRIPTION

The Staghorn Sumac is a shrub or small tree with a short trunk. The height of the plant is 8 to 15 feet. The width is 10 to 15 feet. The leaves are alternated pinnately and compound 16 to 24 inches long. The bark remains fuzzy for several years. The flower is small with yellow green petals.

HABITAT

The Staghorn Sumac lives in a lot of places in different states. The Staghorn Sumac also lives in common woodland and margins. The Staghorn Sumac lives near the school yard and in the sand pit in the Leatherleaf Bog.

INTERESTING FACTS

The Staghorn Sumac plant makes a fine Staghorn Juice aka Rhus Juice. You soak the red flower cluster in water and then add sugar to make the juice.

by Ishaq



Eastern Cottonwood

Populus deltoides



Catalpa

Catalpa speciosa

Eastern Cottonwood

Populus deltoides

DESCRIPTION

The Cottonwood grows up to 30 meters. The tree leaves grow 3 to 7 inches long. They are green and triangle shaped. The bark is thick and rough.

HABITAT

Cottonwoods grow from southern Canada to Florida, and west to Texas and Montana. They grow along streams, valleys, along the banks of rivers, sandbars, and generally by water. There are several large trees growing near the vernal pool near the school yard.

INTERESTING FACTS

The wood of the Cottonwood is used to make plywood, furniture, and matches. It is called Cottonwood because it has lots of seed that release a lot of cotton in the spring.

by Jovhan

Catalpa

Catalpa speciosa

DESCRIPTION

The size of the Catalpa is about 40 to 70 feet high and about 20 to 40 feet wide. The leaves are about 6 to 12 inches long and they're whorled or opposite and they have simple leaves. The color is yellow-greenish and to a brown fall color. The bark is a brittle wood type. There are also flowers that grow on it in an upright cluster. And there is a fruit that grows on it and it is sort of a bean like fruit.

HABITAT

The habitat of this plant can be found in the northeast to the Midwest. And also the wood on the tree tolerates the hot, dry weather and it's considered a weedy tree. You can also find these in the Leatherleaf Bog in the forest or around in the trees and the pond area. This plant likes to grow in warm places because it blooms in June.

INTERESTING FACTS

This tree blooms in June and it also grows rapidly but it is often infested with insects and damaged by snow or thunderstorms or also snow frost. These plants get damaged very quickly because they're very sensitive. If you step on them accidentally they'll die quickly!

by Jessenia



Witch Hazel
Hamamelis virginiana



High Bush Blueberry
Vaccinium corymbosum



Mountain Laurel
Kalmia latifolia

Witch Hazel *Hamamelis virginiana*

DESCRIPTION

They are commonly 10 to 15 feet tall, but in some cases can grow up to 30 feet tall. The bark is a smooth gray to gray brown. The leaves are 3 to 6 inches long with wavy edges, dark on the top and lighter on the bottom. The flower is around 4 1/2 inches long. It has bright yellow thin pedals that look like spiders.

HABITAT

This plant can be found in almost all of the eastern United States, but one part where it is not found is southern Florida. It lives on the ends of dry or moist woods. It is usually found growing by water, or in moist rich soil.

INTERESTING FACTS

In the winter, when most of nature begins to rest, yellow flowers with narrow petals appear between the braches like the fortunetellers of spring covering all the branches like small stars. The leaves and bark of the tree are used in herbal medicine. It is an important ingredient of eye drops, skin creams, ointments and skin tonics. It is found near the entrance at the Leatherleaf Bog.

by Alex i

High Bush Blueberry

Vaccinium corymbosum

DESCRIPTION

The Blueberry can grow up to be 4 to 10 feet tall. The flowers or petals are normally 3/8 inches long and are white to pale pink. The bark is a grayish-brown and is very shreddy. The leaves are smooth and sort of leathery.

HABITAT

The High Bush Blueberry ranges in a lot of states including CT, GA, IL, KS, MA, ME, MI, NH, NC, RI, SC, VT, VA and WV. The plant is located and grows in the woods, thickets and bogs in acidic soil. You can find it around the bog in the Leatherleaf Bog.

INTERESTING FACTS

You can make jam out of the blueberries. You can also make pie and juice out of the blueberries. Over 1 million kilos of blueberries are grown each year in the U.S. Also, the second most popular berry in the U.S. is the blueberry.

by Max

Mountain Laurel

Kalmia latifolia

DESCRIPTION

The Mountain Laurel is 8 to 15 feet high and has thin leaves. Mountain Laurel leaves are alternate. Mountain Laurel bark is a thin dark brown to red in color, shredding and splitting on old stems. The Mountain Laurel flower is a pale pink.

HABITAT

The range of the Mountain Laurel is in New England and New York south to Florida, west to Louisiana, and north to Indiana. The Mountain Laurel lives in open hard wood forests. The Mountain Laurel is in many forests.

INTERESTING FACTS

The Mountain Laurel is an important food for deer. In gardens mulch is needed to keep soil moist around the plant. Mountain Laurel is easy to transplant because of its fibrous root system.

by Brian

Bog Laurel
Kalmia polifolia



Leatherleaf
Chamaedaphne calyculata

Wood Anemone
Anemone quinquefolia



Bog Laurel *Kalmia latifolia*

DESCRIPTION

It is an evergreen shrub with small deep pink, saucer shape flowers in clusters around the stem, mostly below the leaves. The leaves are opposite, evergreen, lanceolate to narrowly oblong, and one and a half to two inches long. The bark is reddish, violet or gray. The flowers are pink and the fruit is a violet red capsule.

HABITAT

It grows in shaded, moist, and well drained sites, bog mats, pine swamps, and sphagnum bogs. It also likes to grow in places that have acidic soil that is low in nitrogen. In the Leatherleaf Bog it grows on the Sphagnum Moss bog in the largest bog.

INTERESTING FACTS

All parts of the plant is poisonous including the nectar, which can result in poisonous honey. Bog Laurel was used once by some native North American Indian tribes in order to commit suicide. It can be used for some skin diseases, open sores, and wounds that will not heal.

by Eric

Leatherleaf

Chamaedaphne calyculata

DESCRIPTION

The description of this plant is that it grows to be 1-4 feet. The leaves are leathery in texture, and brown in the winter. Also the bark is smooth and reddish gray. The flowers are white bell shape, and they grow in March and July.

HABITAT

You could find the Leatherleaf across southern Canada to New Foundland and Nova Scotia, south through New England. The type of area it grows in is bogs and pond margins. Also it grows on top of moss of bogs and swamps.

INTERESTING FACTS

Some interesting facts are that Indians use the Leatherleaf for treatment for fever and tea. Leatherleaf is named as a dominant or indicator species. Leather leaf is a dominant shrub in dwarf-shrub wetland communities. The Leatherleaf Bog is named after this plant because this plant covers the bogs.

by Kadar

Wood Anemone

Anemone quinquefolia

DESCRIPTION

The size of the Wood Anemone is 4-8 inches high. The leaves have 5 cut edges. There is no bark on the plant of course but the flower color is white or sometime pink, but that is only under the plant.

HABITAT

The flower grows around the world and nearly grows anywhere. The area that the Wood Anemone grows in the Leatherleaf Bog is the woods.

INTERESTING FACTS

The flowering time that the plant grows in is most likely around April to the time of June. The family is the Buttercups [Ranunculaceae].

by Deonna



Strawberry

Fragaria virginiana



Rambler Rose

Rosa multiflora



Dewberry

Rubus hispida

Strawberry

Fragaria virginiana

DESCRIPTION

The *Fragaria* is 2-10cm (0.8-4in) long. The leaves are basal, compound and 3 parted. The flowers are a short spreading cluster, each with 5 white petals. The other thing about the leaves is that they are long sharply toothed along the margin, with hair underneath.

HABITAT

This plant is in the eastern coast of the U.S. The kind of areas it grows in is open woodlands, margins of woodlands, and fields. The place its located in the bog is in the forest area.

INTERESTING FACTS

The interesting facts about this plant are you can harvest the best wild fruits. You can locate your site early and check regularly from early June for ripe berries.

by Dana

Rambler Rose

Rosa multi-flora

DESCRIPTION

The Rambler Rose grows from 2 ft. to 6 ft. tall. The leaves are compound leaves with seven or nine leaflets. The flowers form in small red pulpy fruits called hips. The flowers are pink or white. The Rambler Rose also has thorns to protect it.

HABITAT

The Rambler Rose is native to East Asia. It grows in fields, fence rows, near powerlines, roadsides, and forest edges. The place where it grows in the Leatherleaf Bog is the forest.

INTERESTING FACTS

People brought the Rambler Rose to North America in the late nineteenth century to be used in gardens. They turned into an invasive plant that takes over native ecosystems. They have to be removed as soon as possible if they are found taking over an area.

by Karoline 1

Dewberry

Rubus hispida

DESCRIPTION

The plant itself grows three to five feet tall with many branches. It's actually a shrubby plant but its not prickly. It has lots of leaves that grow in bunches of three to five. The leaves are lobe shaped and the middle lobe is the largest. The leaves can grow to be a full foot wide.

HABITAT

The Dewberry lives in rocky woods, wetlands, and forest borders. In the Leatherleaf Bog it grows along the trails and in the sand pit.

INTERESTING FACTS

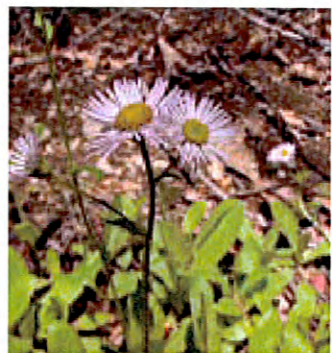
The Dewberry can be used to make tea. You can eat it raw or make cobbler or jam. In the winter the leaves often remain on the stem, but may turn dark red. The Dewberry is also used as a nickname for other berries that have a dew-like texture and are as delicious as dewberries.

by Makayla



Pink Lady's Slipper
Cypripedium acaule

Bird's Foot Violet
Viola pedata



Aster
papilionaceae

Aster novae-angliae



Violet

Viola

Pink Lady's Slipper

Cypripedium acaule

DESCRIPTION

The Lady's Slipper is about 6 to 15 inches tall. The Lady's Slipper has oval shaped leaves and they are ribbed. Each leaf is about 8 inches long. They are dark green above and silvery hairy beneath. The flowers are about 2.5 inches. They have long sepals and side petals. They are greenish brown and have spreading leaves. The petals lanceolate and they are narrower than the sepals. The fruit is about 2 inches.

HABITAT

The Lady's Slipper is found all over the east coast. The Lady's Slipper grows in dry forest and in pine woods. It also grows in humus mats covering rocky outcrops. Another place it grows in is in moist woods. In the Leatherleaf Bog the Lady's Slipper is located in the forest.

INTERESTING FACTS

Some people can get a rash from touching this pretty orchid. Some are poisonous. The Lady's Slipper is also known as the Moccasin Flower. It is also used as a medicine to calm people down or to put them to sleep. Also it helps to stop seizures.

by Kiara

Birdfoot Violet

Viola pandata

DESCRIPTION

This smooth plant has deep blue violet flowers and deeply cut leaves on separate stalks. A Birdfoot Violet got a large flat face with lines that are orange and very skiny cut leaves. The Birdfoot Violet 4 to 10 inches and they are larger than most violets. The leaf size is like 1 to 2 inches long and its shaped like a fan shape with linear toothed segments. Some times the Birdfoot Violet turns darker than it usually is.

HABITAT

Birdfoot Violet lives in dry land and sandy fields and also in woods. The flowers grow places where is dry. The Birdfoot Violet is found along the trail in the Leatherleaf Bog.

INTERESTING FACTS

The flowers attract bees, butterflies, and also skippers. The Birdfoot Violet usually blooms from mid to late spring. It is called a Birdfoot Violet because its leaves look like the feet of a bird.

by Tatiana

New England Aster

Aster novae-angliae

DESCRIPTION

The New England Aster grows up to 2 to 4 feet tall and the leaves are alternate to the lower part of the plant. Also the New England Aster is an early deciduous and is daisy like. Also you can tell whether the New England Aster is old or young by its color fading. Also the leaves of the New England Aster are large clasping stems and the leaves have toothless ends.

HABITAT

The New England Aster is found in mostly all regions of North America and some are found along banks and roadsides. Also in the Leatherleaf Bog the New England Aster is found in the sand pit area and on the trails.

INTERESTING FACTS

New England Aster attracts bees. Also the New England aster is part of the sunflower and daisy family and its name is Asteraceae.

by Alexis

Common Violet

Viola papilionaceae

DESCRIPTION

The Common Violet is purple, small (3-8 inches) and the leaves are a heart-shaped and irregularly tothed. The flower has 5 petals and is smooth. They are perennial and they reproduce by seed and rhizomes. Rhizomes are underground stems.

HABITAT

The flower is found in Massachusetts and grows in woods, meadows, and roadsides. You find the flower in the grass areas in the Leatherleaf Bog.

INTERESTING FACTS

It's also called a meadow flower. This plant has been called a weed in some areas.

by Santana



Common Cinquefoil

Potentilla simplex



Celandine

Ranunculus ficaria



Dandelion

Taraxacum officinale

Common Cinquefolia

Potentilla simplex

DESCRIPTION

This flower is very small. Plus it is very bright yellow. The leaves are toothed at the tip. Also there can be five to seven leaflets. The plant can be 1.5 inches tall.

HABITAT

This flower can be found almost anywhere in the US. It grows in dry parts of woods and most of the time open places. It can be found in drier sunny spots.

INTERESTING FACTS

The Cinquefolia is a part of the dicot family. Their life cycle is perennial, which means that they live for more than one year. They reproduce by seeds and stolons. Stolons are a shoot that bends to the ground or grows horizontally above the ground and produces roots and shoots at the nodes.

by Tiffany

Celandine

Ranunculus ficaria

DESCRIPTION

The flowers open in March and April and have glossy butter Cup flowers. The Celandine's leaves are dark green and mottled with silvery markings. The flowers are yellow and dark green.

HABITAT

The Celandine is an exotic perennial plant. It is found in rich damp soil along fences and roadsides. It is found in the eastern part of North America. It is found in the wooded area of Leatherleaf Bog.

INTERESTING FACTS

The name Celandine may be traced to Greece, when the first century scholar Pliny called it Cheidon, meaning "swallow" in Greek, talking about the bird.

by Kadijah

Dandelion

Taraxacum officinal

DESCRIPTION

The Dandelion is part of a very large family of plants. When the leaves start to grow outward they out compete the surrounding vegetation. The whole entire plant is about 5-25 cm tall. The flowers are mostly yellow or white.

HABITAT

The Dandelion grows all over the United States. But mostly they grow in fields. In the Leatherleaf Bog they are located in the sand pit area.

INTERESTING FACTS

Did you know that Dandelions root is a drug that is sold in Canada? The drug is a diuretic. A diuretic is a substance that removes water from the body by promoting urine formation and loss of salt. Also did you know that Dandelions flowers can be used to make Dandelion wine! You can blow the white Dandelion flowers they will fly off. This is how the dandelion spreads out and grows in new places.

by Christopher



Spotted Wintergreen
Chimaphila maculata



Canada Mayflower
Maianthemum canadense



Indian Cucumber
Mentzelia virginiana

Spotted Wintergreen

Chimaphila maculata

DESCRIPTION

The spotted wintergreen is 4-10 inches. The flower color is white or pink. The flower comes out in June to August. This is a woody herb and is evergreen. The leaves are whorled, or wind around the stem. Leaves can reach 7 cm in length (2.75 inches). Each leaf is toothed and striped white down the middle. Blooms first appear in late spring and continue into late summer. There are often two flowers, sometimes several, hanging face down.

HABITAT

It is found from southern Canada south to Georgia and west to Alabama. In the Leatherleaf Bog area it is found in the dry woods.

INTERESTING FACTS

This is a conspicuous plant in both the winter and summer because of its green and white leaves. The genus name is from the green cheema ("winter") and phoenix ("love").

by Jacob

Canada Mayflower

Maianthemum canadense

DESCRIPTION

The plant is 6 inches tall. The leaves are 3 to 6 inches. The stem stands straight up bearing 2 or 3 smooth leaves with a heart shape. The flowers are small and white, usually in a small simple cluster. The fruit is speckled red berries.

HABITAT

You can find them in the eastern side of the U.S and all over Canada. You can usually find them in damp, mossy wooded area. You could find them in the forest area in the Bog.

INTERESTING FACTS

It's also called as the Wild Lily of the Valley. It's in the lily family. It only comes out in the spring.

by Molica Kim

Indian Cucumber

Mendiola virginiana

DESCRIPTION

The size of an Indian Cucumber leaf is approximately 1/2 inch long and the height is about 1-2 feet tall. The leaves of the Indian Cucumber have two tiers sometimes there are 6 to 10 leaves. The root is 2 to 3 inches long and 1/2 to 1 inches wide. The root of the Indian Cucumber is white, has a brittle texture, and tastes good and smell good. The color of an Indian Cucumber is yellow and green.

HABITAT

The Indian Cucumber is found in eastern North America. It also grows in Florida, Alabama, Louisiana and north to Minnesota. It grows in dry open woods and thickets. It is located in the forest in the Leatherleaf Bog.

INTERESTING FACTS

Indian Cucumber root was eaten by many Native Americans. The Indian Cucumber's root tastes crispy. The Leaf and berry tea was used to treat babies with convulsions. The root of an Indian Cucumber can also be used to make a tea.

by Tatiana



Skunk Cabbage
Symplocarpus foetidus

Water Arum
Calla palustris



Jack in the Pulpit
Ariseama triphylla



Skunk Cabbage

Symplocarpus foetidus

DESCRIPTION

The plant can get 12 inches tall. The leaves appear in early spring. They sometimes can get 3ft across in the late fall. The flower which appears later in winter only grows to 6 inches. They have a round shield by molted sheath. The leaves are red and green and they have a foul smell.

HABITAT

It is found in many different places around the world. Skunk Cabbage grows in wet woodland swamps where it is very plentiful. In the Leatherleaf Bog it grows along the shore of the ponds.

INTERESTING FACTS

Although the Skunk Cabbage smells bad, lots of little kids like to smell it. The Skunk Cabbage should never be brought home because of the foul smell. It also uses its foul smell to keep away predators from eating it.

by Ava

Water Arum

Calla palustris

DESCRIPTION

Water Arum produces a white flower with glossy, oblong, heart – shaped green leaves late in the summer.

HABITAT

Water Arum lives in forest swamps, moorland marshes, and by ponds and streams. In the Leatherleaf Bog it grows in the pond around the bogs.

INTERESTING FACTS

The plant contains calcium oxalate crystals. These cause extremely unpleasant sensations similar to a needle being stuck into the mouth and tongue if they are eaten. But they are easily neutralized by thoroughly drying or cooking the plant or by steeping it in water.

by Javel

Jack In the Pulpit

Ariseama triphylla

DESCRIPTION

Jack in the pulpit can grow up to 1-3 feet. They bloom from April to June. The plant has one or two leaves. The leaves are light green, smooth, have long stems and three leaflets. Each of the three leaflets is from 3 to 6 inches long and from 1 ½ to 3 ½ inches wide. The flower is green with dark purple stripes and looks like a whistle of a train.

HABITAT

They grow in humus rich sandy soils. It is a native herb that grows all year round and is found in moist woods from Canada to Florida and westward to Kansas and Minnesota. In the Leatherleaf Bog it is found in the woodlands beyond the sandpit in the northeast corner of the Bog.

INTERESTING FACTS

Its root is used as a medicine to treat various skin diseases, headaches, as an ointment for ringworm, tetterworm, and wounds. The root has lots of calcium oxylate and could be considered dangerous if eaten raw. The Native Americans stripped down the roots to powder to make bread that tastes like chocolate. The roots can be cut into thin slices, dried for several months, and then eaten like potato chips.

by O'shane

Bracken Fern
Pteridium aquilinum



Sensitive Fern
Onoclea sensibilis



Sweetfern
Comptonia peregrina



Bracken Fern

Pteridium aquilinum

DESCRIPTION

The Bracken Ferns scientific name is *Pteridium aquilinum*. Sometimes this fern grows over 3 feet tall. Instead of leaves ferns have fronds made up of small leaflets.

HABITAT

The Bracken Fern is found anywhere in the eastern United States. The areas it grows in are dry to wet forests, meadows, clearings, sandy soil, road sides, bogs and burned areas.

INTERESTING FACTS

Some interesting facts about the Bracken Fern is that humans use it for food. Their fronds may release hydrogen cyanide and it's a potential source of insecticides. Another thing is that they are allelopathic to some plants, which means they let out chemicals to keep other plants from growing near them.

by Carina

Sensitive Fern

Onoclea sensibilis

DESCRIPTION

The Sensitive Fern is 18-24 inches tall. The leaves are light green, leathery and triangle shaped. Also the leaves have a deep part between each other. They do rather look like large green centipedes too.

HABITAT

They like to grow in bogs, woods, streams, and wet meadows. It likes to live in acidic soils around the bog. It grows in Indiana, Maine, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts. It lives in mostly acid bogs. In the Leatherleaf Bog it grows on the shore of the bog.

INTERESTING FACTS

They grow in the midsummer. It is called the Sensitive Fern because it is sensitive to frost.

by Shabre

Sweet Fern

Comptonia peregrina

DESCRIPTION

The Sweet Fern is not really a fern. It is a bushy plant with stems that are red. The size of the plant is one to three feet tall. It produces single-sided leaves that are about four inches long. The flowers are small and green and in the spring they produce little nuts.

HABITAT

The Sweet Fern is found in dry areas. It is found in the northeast. In the Leatherleaf Bog it is located in the sand area, in dry wood edges, in clearings, and in waste places.

INTERESTING FACTS

The Sweet Fern can make different kinds of sauces. It makes barbecue sauce and gravy when you grind up the leaves. The shrub can also be used to make tea.

by Brandon



Fox Grape

Vitis labrusca



Virginia Creeper

Parthenocissus quinquefolia



Poison Ivy

Toxicodendron radicans

Foxgrape

Vitis labrusca

DESCRIPTION

The leaf size is from 4 to 6 inches. The leaves are heart shaped. The bark is greenish color and the bark is raggedy.

HABITAT

The Foxgrape is located on the east coast. It grows in forests and fields.

INTERESTING FACTS

It is from the vitta family of plants. You can eat the wild grapes in the summer.

by Mikali

Virginia Creeper

Parthenocissus quinquefolia

DESCRIPTION

Virginia Creepers' scientific name is *Parthenocissus quinquefolia*. Virginia Creeper is a climbing vine which grows to 50 feet. It grows only 5 leaflets.

HABITAT

Virginia Creeper's habitat is forests throughout the U.S. It is perfect for covering shady fences or tree trucks.

INTERESTING FACTS

The berries that grow on this plant are eaten by many animals, especially birds like the Eastern Bluebird, the Northern Cardinal, the Chickadees, and woodpeckers. Its growth habits are they may have poison ivy near by and they grow together.

by Jasmine

Poison Ivy

Toxicodendron radicans

DESCRIPTION

Poison Ivy is 1.2m (4ft) tall and the leaf surface is smooth and the edges are toothed, meaning kind of sharp tips. The leaves are shiny, green, and are in clusters of three. They grow from 3 to 12 inches long. Poison Ivy can grow as a bush on the ground or it can climb up trees like a vine.

HABITAT

My plant is regularly found everywhere in the United States. It only grows on the back edge of the largest bog and I would think that it would be hard to find it in the bog.

INTERESTING FACTS

If the poison Ivy was burned and after was inhaled it would give extreme pain near the lungs. If it was rubbed on your skin you would probably develop a nasty, itchy and bad rash. This plant can make you go through a lot that's why you should stay away from it because even though its just a plant it could do a lot.

by Avionna



Japan Honeysuckle
Lonicera japonica



Japanese Knotweed

Fallopia japonica



Barberry

Berberis thunbergii



Burning Bush *Euonymus alata*

Japanese Honeysuckle

Lonicera japonica

DESCRIPTION

The Japanese Honeysuckle has leaves 1 1/2 to 3 inches. The leaves are also long and opposite. They are oval shaped, hairy, and with flowers on it. The twigs are hairy and the vines and flowers are fragrant. The flowers are white and grow in clusters.

HABITAT

It is found across the Southern U.S. from California to New England and the Great Lake region. It grows in areas that are forests, old fields, forest edges, and managed forests.

INTERESTING FACTS

It originally was introduced to North America in the 1800's as a horticultural ground cover. It's native to eastern Asia. This plant has been reported from only one island in Asia. It can be grown as a quick ground cover or planted on banks for erosion control. It grows quickly on trails or fences to provide a sweet, fragrant screen for privacy or shade. The flowering attracts humming birds and bees and the fruits are enjoyed by many kinds of song birds.

by Tiara

Japanese Knotweed

Fallopia japonica

DESCRIPTION

The Japanese Knotweed grows from 10-16.3 inches long. It is not a tree so it doesn't have any bark. The flowers are produced in elongated branched clusters in junctions of upper leaves. Each flower is tiny, long and white. The leaves are alternate and simple. The stems are upright with a hollow core; smooth, mottled, and frequently branching.

HABITAT

The habitat of this plant is distributed and is located in waste sites, vacant lots and roadsides. It is located in the eastern part of North America. The place it is located in the Leatherleaf Bog is in the sand pit area and next to the roads.

INTERESTING FACTS

You can harvest this plant on gray, dry stalks of the previous year. Another fact is that you can eat it. Also, this plant takes on different forms though the seasons.

by Avery

Japanese Barberry

Barberis thunbergii

DESCRIPTION

The Japanese Barberry grows from two to six feet high. Its flowering time is April through May. The leaves are oval and their color is green. The bark is long with curves and its color is dark purple. The color of the flower is yellow.

HABITAT

In the U.S. it is found in Connecticut and the rest of New England. The area it grows is in the woods, thickets, and pastures. It is found in all areas of the Leatherleaf Bog.

INTERESTING FACTS

The Japanese Barberry is originally from Japan but people brought it over here and it started growing everywhere. People make jelly and juice from Japanese Barberry.

by Neftali

Burning Bush

Euonymus alata

DESCRIPTION

Winged Burning Bush is a deciduous shrub that will grow 15 to 20 feet tall and equally as wide. The leaves are red and orange in the fall. The bark has wings that are softer than the normal bark. The flowers have small orange and red seeds in them.

HABITAT

It's found all throughout the northeast and midwest of the U.S. The Burning Bush is also found along the trails in the Leatherleaf Bog. The Burning Bush is also found living along the sidewalk near the northwest exit of the school.

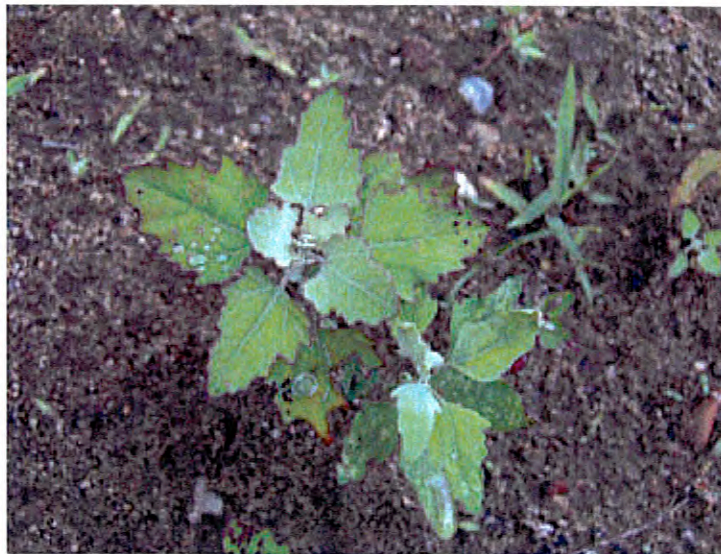
INTERESTING FACTS

The Burning Bush is an excellent large shrub for landscape use. It is called Burning Bush because of the bright red color that the leaves turn in the fall.

by Stephen



English Plantain *Plantago lanceolata*



Lamb's Quarter *Chenopodium album*

English Plantain

Plantago lanceolata

DESCRIPTION

This plant consists of a leaves in a rose shape around the base of the plant and one or more flowering stalks. The leaves are up to 12 inches long and 1 inch across, but more commonly about half this size. They are broadly lined and smooth along the margins, being broadest toward the middle and becoming thinner toward their tips and the base of the plant. There are 3-5 parallel veins along the length of each leaf. The flowers are about 3 millimeters.

HABITAT

English Plantain is an abundant weed found in lawns, old fields, empty lots and other disturbed habitat.

INTERESTING FACTS

Traditionally English Plantain was made into tea to help treat coughs and diarrhea. The leaves can be put on sores to help them heal quicker. Many species of Plantago have been also help to heal wounds.

by Derek

Lamb's Quarter

Chenopodium album

DESCRIPTION

The Lamb's Quarter leaves are alternate and the lower ones are almost triangular. The flowers on the Lamb's Quarter are tiny and produced in dense short spikes in the junction of upper leaves and at the tip of the plant.

HABITAT

You find this plant anywhere. It grows in common and widespread, yards, vacant lots, roadside and waste areas. In the Leatherleaf Bog is found near the school and in the sand pit area.

INTERESTING FACTS

Lamb's Quarter is an excellent green vegetable because it lacks strong flavor and is high in vitamins A and C, calcium, potassium, and phosphorus.

by Jose



Duckweed

Lemna minor



Sphagnum Moss

Sphagnopsida

Duckweed

Lemna minor

DESCRIPTION

Duckweed is the smallest plant in the world. One species of duckweed is only 0.3 mm long. Each flower consists of two stamens and a pistil with three unisexual flowers. The layer of duckweed is the stuff that makes the water green.

HABITAT

Duckweed is found everywhere in the US. Duckweed is grown in ponds. Duckweed is located in the back of the school in the wetlands. Duckweed is grown in ponds and sometimes has stems growing with it.

INTERESTING FACTS

Lemnaceae is a botanical name for a family of plants that includes duckweeds. Duckweeds are an important food source for waterfowl and are an important human in parts of South Asia.

by Malizha

Sphagnum Moss

Sphagnopsida

DESCRIPTION

Bogs have a living surface, which is made of a carpet of Sphagnum Moss. Sphagnum moss can grow up to 50 centimeters tall. It's green and grows stuck together spread out in a mat. When you walk on a mat of Sphagnum Moss it is bouncy. This thick layer of Sphagnum Moss forms the bog and all the other plants grow on this Sphagnum Moss

HABITAT

The Sphagnum Moss grows in very wet areas. In the Leatherleaf Bog the moss grows on top of the pond and forms the bog.

INTERESTING FACTS

The body of the moss is made up of a large portion of water holding cell and absorbs 20 to 30 times its weight in water. Sphagnum Moss was used anciently as bandages to suck up blood. Tiny plants and tiny animals live on Sphagnum Moss and bogs.

by Elizer

ANIMALS

MAMMALS

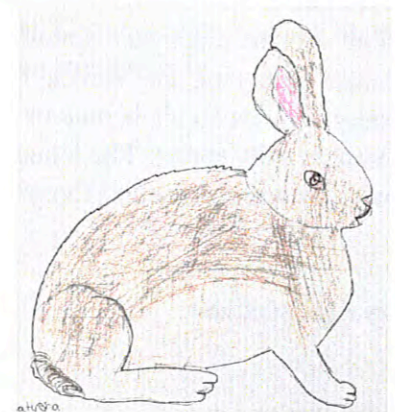
Eastern Grey Squirrel
Sciurus carolinensis



Chipmunk
Eutamias minimus



Eastern Cottontail
Sylvilagus floridanus



Chipmunk

Eutamias minimus

DESCRIPTION

The color of the Chipmunk varies from muted yellowish-gray above with tan dark stripes to brownish-gray with black side stripes. The stripes continue to the base of the tail; the sides are generally an orange-brown; the belly grayish-white. The tail is long and light brown above, yellowish below with long, black-tipped hairs. Average weight is 1-3 ounces.

HABITAT

That colorful squirrel is widespread and easily visible in wooded open country in the mountains throughout western North America. The Eastern Chipmunk lives in open deciduous forests and at the edges of woodlands. It can also be found in bushy areas and in rocky areas like walls near houses and other buildings. It is found on the borders of the Leatherleaf Bog.

INTERESTING FACTS

The eastern chipmunk spends a large part of its waking hours gathering and storing food for the winter. One of their favorite foods is nuts or acorns. Eastern Chipmunks mate in early spring. The female usually has one litter a year with between three and five young.

by Alex

Eastern Gray Squirrel

Sciurus carolinensis

DESCRIPTION

The Eastern Gray Squirrel can grow 17 to about 20 inches long. The squirrel is gray with buff under fur showing above, especially on the head, shoulder, back, and feet. They most likely have grayish brown fur.

HABITAT

The Eastern Gray Squirrel is found in the eastern part of the United States. Also they can be found in Manitoba, North Dakota, Iowa and the eastern part of Kansas.

INTERESTING FACTS

Some of the things that the Gray Squirrel eats are acorns, walnuts, and beechnuts. Did you know that the Eastern Gray Squirrel can live 10 to 12 years long but after 6 years they are considered an old squirrel. The Gray Squirrel can be up to 3 times as large a Red Squirrel but smaller than a Fox Squirrel. The Eastern Gray Squirrel has 1 litter of 2 or 3 young born in spring and a second litter in late summer.

by Christopher

New England Cottontail

Sylvilagus floridanus

DESCRIPTION

The New England Cottontails are between 405 and 411mm in size. The girl is bigger than the boy. Their fur is brown with some black.

HABITAT

The New England Cottontails are found in the Eastern U.S. They are found from Maine to Alabama. In the Leatherleaf Bog they are found in open areas and in thickets and bushes.

INTERESTING FACTS

The New England Cottontails are favored for hunting. Their meat is common in rabbit stew. Also, their fur is used for clothes.

by Brandon

AMPHIBIANS



Wood Frog

Rana sylvatica



Bull Frog

Rana catesbeiana

Red Backed Salamander
Plethodon cinereus



Wood Frog

Rana sylvatica

DESCRIPTION

The Wood Frog is a medium sized frog. Its body is about 50 mm long with its legs stretched out. The Wood Frog's colors are pink, tan or dark brown. There is a light stripe on the upper jaw and sometimes a light line down the middle of the back. The belly of the Wood Frog is plain white. The Wood Frog's toes are not fully webbed. Male frogs have swollen thumbs.

HABITAT

Wood Frogs are usually found in North America and across Canada next to the Rocky Mountain's. They are usually in woodlands or grassland. They could be everywhere in the Leatherleaf Bog.

INTERESTING FACTS

The Wood Frog jumps farther than most of the frogs in the Leatherleaf Bog. Wood Frogs have a special ability to freeze their bodies. Ice crystals form beneath the skin and become interspersed among the body's skeletal muscles. The North America Wood Frog belongs to a small group of animals that are freeze tolerant.

by Tatiana

Bullfrog

Rana catesbeiana

DESCRIPTION

The bull frog is usually green or greenish brown. When they are found in the south they are usually spotted. Their eyes are gold or brown. Plus the frogs head and body are flat. They also grow up to 3.5 inches and 9 to 15 cm in body length, if you were to add the legs you would have to add another 7 to 10 more inches.

HABITAT

They can be found in eastern parts of the U.S. They range from as far north as Nova Scotia all the way down to Florida. They always live in shallow waters with a few rocks.

INTERESTING FACTS

The average life span for the male is 4 to 5 years. The average life span for the female is up to 6 or 7 years.

by Tiffany

Red Backed Salamander

Plethodon cinereus

DESCRIPTION

The size of the Red Backed Salamander is 2.3 to 5 inches. They have black bodies and a bright red stripe down the middle of their backs. They can also be black without the red stripe, but usually they have it. Red Backed Salamanders are not that long when they are born.

HABITAT

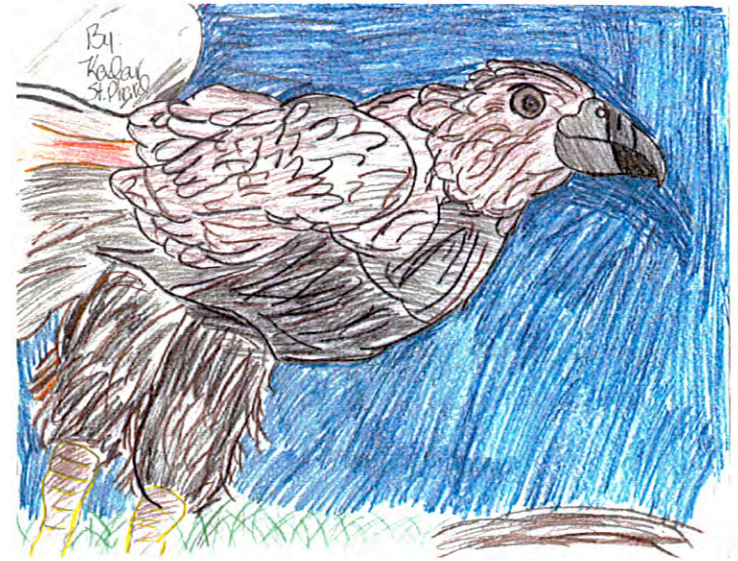
You can find a red backed salamander under rocks and logs, especially on the flood plains. You can even find them under moss and dead leaves.

INTERESTING FACTS

They grow to be 5 inches when they are an adult.

by Shabre

BIRDS



Red Tailed Hawk

Buteo jamaicensis

Northern
Cardinal



Northern Cardinal
Cardinalis cardinalis

Red Tailed Hawk

Buteo jamaicensis

DESCRIPTION

The Red Tailed Hawk is 18-25 inches long. It is a large, stocky hawk that has typical light phase with whitish breast and rust colored tail. Young birds are duller. The Red Tailed is the largest hawk, usually weighing between 2 and 4 pounds. As with most raptors, the female is nearly 1/3 larger than the male and may have a wing span of 56 inches.

HABITAT

It is found in North America from Alaska east to Nova Scotia and southward. It likes meadows. The Red Tailed Hawk is usually found in grasslands or marsh-shrub habitats, but is very adaptable bird, being equally at home in desert and forest, and at varying heights above sea level.

INTERESTING FACT

Most hawks build bulky nest of twigs bark and leaves in high tree. The eggs are usually white or bluish whitish, and variably blotched and spotted with shades of brown.

by Angel and Avery

Northern Cardinal

Cardinalis cardinalis

DESCRIPTION

The Northern Cardinal is a medium sized songbird. It is approximately 8.75 inches in length. The males are brilliant red and have brownish grayish tinged legs. Their feet are dark red. They have a coral red bill. They also have rounded wings and a long tail. The Northern Red Cardinal has a large crest on its head and its face is surrounded by black.

HABITAT

The Northern Cardinal was found only north of the Ohio River. It reached the Great Lakes. It likes thick and brushy areas. It also likes the sides of streams and woodlands, parks, and residential areas.

INTERESTING FACTS

The Northern Red Cardinal is noted for its loud whistle songs, which are often sung from a high tree top song post. It feeds on seeds, leaves, and berries. Most of their diet is vegetable matter. The female and the male are different colors. The female is tan and the males are brilliant red.

by Kiara

Robin
Turdus migratorius



Red Headed Woodpecker
Melanerpes erythrocephalus



Northern Oriole

Icterus galbula

Robin

Turdus migratorius

DESCRIPTION

The size of a Robin is eight to eleven inches. The wingspan is 12 to 16 inches and the average weight is 2.72 ounces. Robin adults are gray brown above with a darker head and tail. The bill is bright yellow; the chin and throat are white, with black vertical striping on the throat. Surrounding the dark eyes are white orbital markings. The breast is brick red and the belly is white.

HABITAT

The Robin likes forests, woodlands, and gardens, especially where short-grass areas are interspersed with shrubs and trees. Their nests are domed and made by the females. They're made of grass, dead leaves, and moss in an isolated place, like in a bush, hedge, hole in a tree, wall, or even in a garden shed.

INTERESTING FACTS

While the female Robin incubates the second clutch of eggs the fledged young from the first brood often join adult males at communal nocturnal roosts. Nightly roosting may begin as early as June. Males are joined first by spot breasted juveniles, then by adult females. The number of Robins at a roost peaks in late summer.

by Sasha

Robin
Tudor

Wood Pecker *throcephalus*

Wood Pecker is 7 to 5 inches tall. Also it is red head, black and white wings with a white beak. It has brown, black on the bottom of its tail.

HABITAT

The Red Headed Wood Pecker is found in the east Rockies in groves. Also farms, orchards and in large shady but scattered trees. It is a partial migrant to the north. It is also found in Canada and the gulf of states.

INTERESTING FACTS

The Red Headed Woodpecker has a clutch size of 4 to 7. Also the number of broods it has is often 2 and the length of incubation is 12 to 13 days. The number of days to fledge is 27 to 30 days. It eats nuts, seeds, insects and fruits.

by Alexis

Northern Oriole *Icterus galbula*

DESCRIPTION

The size of the northern oriole is 18-20 cm or 7 to 8 1/2 inches. The Northern Oriole has an orange cheeks and eyebrows and a large white wing patch. They also have an orange breast, rump, and shoulder patches.

HABITAT

The range of a Northern Oriole is in the winter they go to Mexico to South America. The places that it likes are tree tops, tall shade trees in small towns, along country roads, and especially old elms and around farmhouses.

INTERESTING FACTS

One interesting fact is that they lay 4 to 6 grayish eggs with brown spots. They eat insects, spiders, and snails, as well as buds, nectar and fruit. They make notes that are very loud.

by Karoline



Red Winged Blackbird
Agelaius phoeniceus

Yellow Breasted Chat
Icteria virens



Black Capped Chickadee
Poecile atricapillus



Red Winged Black Bird *Agelaius phoeniceus*

DESCRIPTION

The Red Winged Black Bird is 17-23 cm (7-9in) long. It has black, orange, and white wings with a silverish beak. It is smaller than a robin, and a rich musical voice.

HABITAT

It is found in southern parts of North America and breeds in a variety of wetland and grassy areas including marshes, meadows, alfalfa fields, and open patches in woodlands.

INTERESTING FACTS

The Red Winged Black Bird is a highly polygamous species with one male having up to 15 different female mates. They are also very territorial, each bird guards their own area.

by Tiara

Yellow Breasted Chat

Icteria virens

DESCRIPTION

The Yellow Breasted Chat is [17-19 cm] larger than a sparrow – olive green above, with bright yellow breast and white abdomen, stout black bill; black face mask bordered above and below with white stomach, black face mask above and below with white.

HABITAT

They live in dense thickets and brush, often with thorny stream-side tangles, and dry brushy hillsides. Their nests have 4 or 5 brown-spotted white eggs in a bulky mass of bark, grass, and leaves lined with finer grass and concealed in a dense bush.

INTERESTING FACTS

The Chat is from southern British Columbia east to Massachusetts. The Yellow Breasted Chat is an atypical wood warbler. Its larger size and stout bill, and long tail make it seem more like a Mocking Bird or a Thrasher.

by Javel

Black Capped Chickadee

Pocile atricapillus

DESCRIPTION

The Black Capped Chickadee is a very small bird, seeing that it only reaches five inches in length. The bird has the wingspan of six to eight inches. The Chickadee weighs nine to fourteen grams. The forehead, crown, nape, and the upper mantle of the bird are sooty black. The breast, belly, and the vent are whitish. The under parts are olive-gray. The cap and bib of course are black. The cheeks are white.

HABITAT

The Black Capped Chickadee can be found in the northern part of the United States. They travel in flocks to the open woodlands and parks. They also like the willow thickets, and cottonwood groves.

INTERESTING FACTS

For such a small bird they have an extraordinary memory. The Black Capped Chickadee can remember over one thousand hiding places. The bird never uses the same hiding place twice for their seeds. Their simple call “Chick-a-Dee Dee” has been found to be an extremely complex language. The birds use it to find and warn each other of predators that are near by.

by Dana, Bianca & Jhonathan



Rock Dove

Columba livia



Blue Jay

Cyanocitta cristata

Rock Dove

Columba livia

DESCRIPTION

The Rock Dove can grow up to 11 inches. The egg size grows up to 39mm. The Rock Dove is a large chunky bird. It looks like a pigeon. The colors are blue, white, and flashy colors on its neck.

HABITAT

The Rock Dove is found from central Canada and southward. The dove likes to live in farm buildings. Sometimes they look for food in the cities.

INTERESTING FACTS

The sound is like a soft guttural cooing. The doves stay with their mates for a whole year. Another name for it is the pigeon.

by Keisha

Mockingbird

Mimus polyglottos

DESCRIPTION

Mocking birds are long narrow gray birds reaching up to nine inches in length, with white undersides and flashy white wing patches and outer tail feathers. The males and the females look alike.

HABITAT

Mocking birds live from southern Oregon through northern Utah to Newfoundland and south to Mexico and the West Indies. Mocking birds require open grassy areas for their feeding, thick, thorny shrubs for hiding the nest and high perches where the male can defend his territory.

INTERESTING FACTS

The northern mockingbirds live in a wide variety of natural areas and towns. In addition to being well known for its extensive song repertoire, the mockingbird is notorious for conspicuous and aggressive nest defense. They eat a very wide variety of food items, such as insects, earthworms, and usually small lizards. Common predators are owls and snakes.

by Molica

Blue Jay

Cyanocitta cristata

DESCRIPTION

The size of the Blue Jay is between 9 to 12 inches long. It is bright blue and white to gray on its throat, chest and belly. It has a gray-blue crest on its head and black and white bars on its wings and tail. Its bill, legs, and feet are black. And the Blue Jay has a necklace on its lower throat.

HABITAT

The Blue Jay is common in deciduous forests. It is also found in residential areas. The Blue Jay is found in Massachusetts, New York, Connecticut, New Jersey, North Carolina, South Carolina and Maine.

INTERESTING FACTS

The Blue Jay is very aggressive and territorial. Groups of Blue Jays often attack intruders and predators. They often drive other birds away from bird feeders.

by Latysha and Ava

Canada Goose

Branta canadensis

DESCRIPTION

The Canadian Goose weighs up to 20 pounds. When they are babies they are yellowish and when they grow up they are mostly brown on their body, black on its neck with a little bit of white.

HABITAT

The Canada Goose's habitat is mostly a wet land. They prefer nesting in marshy areas such as swamps, bogs, ponds, potholes, lakes, and rivers. Also their winter homes are marsh lands and lakes near farmers' fields. They live in the Duggan Athletic Fields.

INTERESTING FACTS

Some interesting facts about this species are that there are at least 11 different species of the Canada Goose. Canada Geese are protected by hunting regulations. Governments are involved in saving wetlands and providing areas for nesting and feeding.

by Carina

Mallard

Anas platyrhynchos

DESCRIPTION

The Mallard is 56 - 65 cm long with 81- 98 cm wingspan and weighs 750-1000g.

HABITAT

The Mallard is also known in North America as the wild duck. It is a common and widespread duck which breeds throughout the temperate and sub-tropical areas of North America, Europe and Asia. Well Mallards like areas like wet lands, including parks, small ponds and rivers. There is a pair that lives in the Duggan Courtyard and another in the Duggan Leatherleaf Bog.

INTERESTING FACTS

Mallards form pairs only until the female lays eggs, at which time the male leaves the baby mallards. The clutch is 9-13 eggs which are incubated for 27-28 days and then hatch. They are fledglings for another 50-60 days.

by Malizha