

Welcome/ Naturalist/Volunteer Names
Introduction: **Today's Topic-Mosses & Mushrooms** **Question: Do all plants have flowers?**

Ice Breaker: **Pass the Person** or the **Name Game**

Background/ **What comes to mind when you think of a plant?**
Exploration: Look at examples of some less noticeable plants. Moss, ferns, liverworts, lichens.
Many of these lower vascular plants are smaller, and unusual.
 They have no flowers or seeds.
 Most need wet places to live.
 Water transport "pipes" are simple.

Look at examples of fungus, or mushrooms. How are they different than plants?
Look at pictures of gills on mushrooms. Parts-cap, stalk, & gills.

Activity: **Fungus, Yum!** Do you like mushrooms? Do you ever eat fungi?
Look at various food containers and find out what yeast or fungus does to help make that food-bread, cheese, yogurt, etc.

OUTDOOR Hunt for lower vascular plants.
EXPLORATION: Look along streambeds, on dead trees, and on fallen logs.
If weather permits, take the long hike to see the clubmosses.
Moss, liverworts, scouring rushes, ferns. Also fungi & lichens.
Use magnifying glasses to look more closely at these neat organisms.

Send Off: Goodbye! **Take Home:** Spore Print instructions (fall)

References

Carlson, Laurie. 1993. *Ecoart! Earth-Friendly Art & Craft Experiences for 3-to 9-year olds*. Williamson Publishing, Charlotte, VT. Spore Print instructions.
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Conard, H. S. 1956. *How to Know the Mosses and Liverworts*. Wm. C. Brown Company Publishers, Dubuque, IA.
Hale, Mason E. 1969. *How to Know the Lichens*. Wm. C. Brown Company Publishers, Dubuque.
Mickel, John T. 1979. *How to Know the Ferns and Fern Allies*. Wm. C. Brown Co. Publishers, Dubuque.