Teacher Lesson 4: Plant Parts

Next Generation Science Standard

Grade 1: From Molecules to Organisms: Structures and Processes

1-LS1.A: Structure and Function • All organisms have external parts. Different animals use their body parts in different ways to see, hear, grasp objects, protect themselves, move from place to place, and seek, find, and take in food, water and air. Plants also have different parts (roots, stems, leaves, flowers, fruits) that help them survive and grow.

You can use Flexi-Scope to take a closer look at different parts of plants. What parts can students identify?

- Roots
- Stems
- Leaves
- Flowers
- Seed pods
- Fruits
- Branches
- Thorns

See how many of these plant parts you can collect and look at using Flexi-Scope. If you can't find all the parts from the same plant, collect them from other plants, but keep them separate. Be sure you can identify the plant so the images can be labeled appropriately. You can use the filename to identify the image.

Talk to students about how plants differ depending on the part of the country they are in and their habitat: meadow, forest, desert, etc.

You can also discuss with students how plants can protect themselves from being eaten by animals. Some plants have thorns (cactus) or prickles (rose bushes). Other plants are toxic to animals, including people. For example, all parts of the pretty oleander plant are deadly.

