

## ENVIRONMENTAL LEARNING PROGRAMS CELEBRATE WILDFLOWERS

## #6 MAKING PERFUME

CONTENT

How perfume is made.

**GRADE LEVEL** 

K-6

**OBJECTIVE** 

Learn how perfume is made by making some.

PROCESS AND RESEARCH SKILLS

Comprehension, application, analysis, synthesis, observation.

PRODUCT

Perfume.

SUGGESTED LOCATION

In the classroom or at home.

TIME REQUIRED

Preparation time 10 minutes. Wait time 2 weeks.

**MATERIALS** 

Baby food jar with a lid for each perfume flavor, rubbing alcohol, enough fragrant plant parts to fill jar (rose petals, sagebrush leaves, violets, cloves, cinnamon, lavendar, etc.), knife or food processor and a strainer.

ACTIVITY AND DISCUSSION

Many plants have strong fragrances. Chose your favorite fragrant plant and make perfume the way cosmetic companies make perfume.

- 1. Chop plant parts into small pieces. Place in jar.
- 2. Fill jar with alcohol.
- 3. Put lid on. Wait for 2 weeks. (Alcohol dissolves aromatic oils.)
- 4. Strain. If fragrance is strong enough, close and age for another week. If not, add more chopped plants and repeat.
- 5. Try several fragrant plants. Make up recipes for perfume.

**EVALUATION** 

Completion of product.

**EXTENSION 1** 

Mass produce, bottle, label and distribute your perfume.

**EXTENSION 2** 

Study fragrant plants in their native habitat. Are they more fragrant at a certain time of the day or the year? Why do you think this is so? (To attract pollinators.) Complete lesson plans, "Pollinator Field Guides" and "Bees as Pollinators."