

Schoolyard Botany: Meeting STEM SOLs

Virginia Museum of Natural History Thursday, June 25, 2015

9 a.m. - 4 p.m., with working lunch

"Schoolyard Botany" is a professional development workshop for K-5 educators presented by the Flora of Virginia Project and the Virginia Museum of Natural History.

Inspire your students to love the outdoors, and meet your SOLs at the same time! Join award-winning Virginia STEM educator Barbara Adcock in exploring plants and their connections with culture, history, and art. You will use a selection of Barbara's 13 lesson plans inspired by the *Flora of Virginia* and the 2014 exhibition of the same name at the Library of Virginia. Sample lesson topics: journaling like a botanist; comparing types of botanical art; practical uses of plants; changes in habitats; and using dichotomous keys to identify plants. You will leave with a palette of hands-on, often outdoor activities that will interest your students in the botanical world around them. Lesson plans are keyed to combinations of K-5 SOLs in science, math, English, history, and art. Each will open with an activity of sensory observation to encourage subjective learning, an approach inspired by Richard Louv's *Last Child in the Woods*.

Registration: free but required no later than **June 18**. Supplies provided. **Lunch:** available from the Paleo Café, or bring your own. Bring water bottle. To sign up or for more information, contact Debbi Bryant at **(276) 634-4185** or discover@vmnh.virginia.gov.



