



BOTANICAL ART AT HOME

Have you ever wanted to try your hand at botanical art? Use the following activity, created by the Jenkins Florilegium artists, to help you observe and reflect nature in your own artistic creation. There are a few ideas below, followed by a sample page to help you get started. Share your experience by tagging us on social media @JAGardens with #JenkinsAtHome.

Materials

Notebook , sketchbook, or loose sheets of paper

Pencil, pen, colored pencils, watercolor or marker pens

Eraser

Ruler

How to Begin

Take a walk around your yard or neighborhood to find a pine tree. Once you find one, search the ground or branches for one of the little pine cones growing. Take pictures of the cone to show how it grows and what size it is in proportion to the tree. You may want to measure the cone or bring it home with you.

Make note of the flowers you see on your walk. Draw a quick sketch, take a photo to help capture the colors of the blooms, measure and describe their locations.

Pick up a few items on your walk: an acorn, leaf, fallen flower, or twig with a bud.

Back at home, fill a journal page with notes, drawings, and tracings from your walk. You may want to do a page for each plant, or combine into one "story." Don't forget to research and note the names of plants and trees. It is common for botanical illustrators to note the Latin name as well as the common name, and note measurements in centimeters or millimeters as well. Set a goal to add to your journal regularly to observe the change of seasons over the next few weeks.

March 20, 2020
Bala Cynwyd, PA

