

# Botany Part 1

## **Contact Information:**

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## **Class Description**

Florida is an amazing but unique place to grow things. We are lucky to have not one, but three separate growing seasons. Different plants grow best during different seasons. For example, oregano can grow as both a “warm” weather and “cool” weather herb. However, rosemary and basil can tolerate the heat of Florida summer where as cilantro and dill thrive better in Florida’s winter. Tomato plants will grow in the summer, but flowers that produce the delicious fruit won’t develop until night time temps fall to 70° or lower.

Students will take a hands on approach to learn about the biology of plants and when and how they grow best. Each class students can expect to “get dirty” as we set up a new growing lab to take home each week. In many cases, students will be able to transplant their experiments into gardens at home. Students will also often be sent home with new seedlings to plant “for fun.” To that end, students will be encouraged to create gardens at home either in yards or containers and asked to report their findings if they would like. (not required).

## **Class goals:**

- Learn the specifics of growing plants in Florida in regards to soil, seasons and temperature through hands on experiments
- Understand how the specific Florida environment impacts plant growth
- Understand invasive species verses natives and how that can impact our state
- Development an understanding of the growing seasons in Florida
- Understand through direct hands on experiments that specific species of plants have specific growing needs

## **Prerequisites:**

No experience is required  
Ages 8 – 18,

## **Materials**

- Pencil
- I will provide hand outs and all supplies needed for in class lab work
- Optional: garden gloves and/or apron – we will get dirty!
- Optional: dirt, seeds or seedlings for their home or container gardens

- Shoebox (week 4)

## **Policies and Procedures**

### **Withdrawal/Refunds/Cancellations**

- A class refund will be given for withdrawal prior to the first day of class.
- Since I will be preparing materials prior to the first day, no materials fee refund will be given.
- There are no refunds for missed classes, however, family may email me for missed material. If I cancel the class, I will refund that day's fees.

### **Discounts**

A 10% discount will be given to siblings within the same class. There is for the class fee only, not the materials fee.