

Home-School Connection Handout

How Mother Nature

Flowered the Fields of Earth and Mars



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RP BOOKS WASHINGTON
REAGENT PRESS

www.REAGENTPRESS.com

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Flowered the Fields of Earth and Mars

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Reagent Press

Published by Virtual Press, Inc.

Printed Book ISBN 1-57545-102-6

Teacher's Guide ISBN 1-57545-103-4

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SCHOOL-HOME CONNECTION HANDOUT

How Mother Nature Flowered the Fields of Earth and Mars

Dear Family,

I have been learning about the environment and why it is important to keep the Earth habitable for all its creatures. I would like to describe how the humans caused the pollution problem and how we are trying to correct it. It is my hope that you will enjoy doing the assignment with me.

Sincerely, _____ Student's signature.

Objectives:

1. Observe two varieties of flowers grow, compare their characteristics, and witness the effects of pollution.
2. Observe the behavior of two members of Mother Nature's flowering team.
3. View the night sky to locate planets.

The student will:

Identify and describe what happens to the flowers.

Describe the results of observing two of Mother Nature's creatures.

Identify several planets and describe them and their locations in the sky.

Parent / Child Activities

1. Plant marigolds and daisies in two separate flower containers. Measure their growth each week, record their height and describe how they smell. Compare the two and choose the one you think would be a bee's first choice. Mix a tablespoon of salt in ½ cup of water and sprinkle on the blooms every other day. Describe what happens to the flowers and how they smell.

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2. Build a habitat for earthworms in a transparent container. Put three earthworms in the container, and watch how they live. Make sure the earth is loose and not packed down. Add pieces of vegetation and water to keep the soil damp. Keep in a cool place. Loosen soil once a week and count the number of earthworms.

3. If you live in an area that has beavers, take a nature walk along a stream to find a beaver's dam. Watch them for awhile, and write what they do. See if you can find a way to identify a few, and give them names. Continue making visits and see if you can identify the lodge leader.

4. If you live in an area that has beehives, watch the activity at the hive from a safe distance. Record what you see. Continue making visits and see if there are any changes to the bees' activity.

5. During evening hours, look at the moon, Mars, and other planets that are visible to the naked eye. Draw what you see. Using a telescope, do the same thing. How much closer do the moon and the planets appear to be? What other planets can you see?

Parents: After you have listened to or read my observations, let's talk about it.

Parent's
comments _____

Parent's signature _____