

PLANTS IN THE CLASSROOM

PURPOSE:

To explore the world of plants through observation and care while maintaining the safety and health of all children.

PROCEDURES:

- 1. All plants in the classroom will be labeled. Label will include plant's common name i.e. Spider Plant. A list of plants that are harmful and/or poisonous will be maintained. Plants are among the most common household substances ingested by children. It is difficult to determine every commercially available household plant's toxicity. A more reasonable approach is to keep plants out of young children's reach and teach them at an early age not to nibble on any plant, lawn mushroom or berry not commonly used as food. Carnivorous plants will not be allowed. i.e. Venus Fly Traps.**
2. All staff must be aware of children's allergies and fears. If a child has an allergy to a plant, that plant will not be allowed in the classroom setting. If a child has a fear, appropriate measures will be taken to help the child deal with the fear.
3. Plants, shrubs, and trees in the outdoor learning environment will be maintained in a safe manner. Plants that are harmful (thorns, sharp branches) and/or poisonous will not be included.

This is a list of some of the more common poisonous plants found in and around the home. This list is not intended to be exhaustive by any means. If you are unsure of any plant, please check the appropriate references.

Common Poisonous House Plants	
Aloe Vera	Hydrangea
Amaryllis	Japanese Yew
Autumn Crocus	Java Beans
Azalea	Lantana
Balsam Pear	Lily-of-the-Valley
Bird of Paradise	Narcissus
Boxwood	Nightshade (Deadly, Black, Garden or Woody Nightshade)
Caladium	Eggplant (all except fruit)
Castor Bean	Oleander
Chalice Vine	Philodendron
Coral Plant	Poinsettias
Daffodil	Pothos
Datura (berries only)	Yam Bean
Dieffenbachia	
Elephant's Ear	
Hyacinth	

Common Poisonous Outdoor Plants

American Yew	Larkspur
Baneberry	Locoweed
Bittersweet Nightshade	Lords and Ladies
Black Locust	May Apple
Bloodroot	Mistletoe
Buckthorn	Monkshood
Buttercup	Morning Glory
Calla Lily	Mountain Laurel
Cherry Tree	Nutmeg
Christmas Candle	Pokeweed
Clematis	Potatos (green tubers, vines, leaves, new sprouts)
Cowslip	Rhubarb leaves
Daphne	Rhododendron
English Holly	Rosary Peas
English Yew	Snowdrop
Golden Chain or Laburnum	Snowflake
Henbane	Sweet Pea
Hemlock	Tobacco
Honey Locust	Tomatos (leaves and vines)
Horse Chestnut	Water Hemlock
Indian Turnip	Western Yew
Iris	
Jimsonweed	