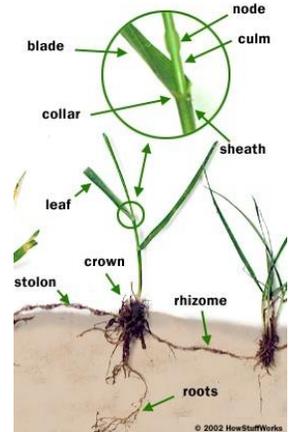


Connect – Learn – Grow

Week of July 11:

ACTIVITIES/SHARING:

- Hope (dance?) for rain and, when it comes (and if there’s no thunder/lighting in the area!), enjoy a walk out in it.
- After spending some time in/around nature; compose a haiku
 1. Choose a subject
 2. Write 2 short lines (we learn that haiku has lines of 5, 7 & 5 syllables, but that’s not really necessary), “setting a scene” and using present tense
 3. Write a third line, shifting perspective, or moving from the general to the specific
 4. **Bring your haiku to the Sunday Social on August 1 for “prize credits”**
- Stalk the Grass [Objective: To observe variation & adaptations in grasses growing outdoors.]
 1. Supplies: “Stalk the Grass” card (**see end of this doc**), “clipboard”, pencil, small shovel?
 2. Review the tasks on the card and choose one or two to complete. Clarify whether or not it’s OK to dig or pick grass specimens.
 3. **Save your card and bring it to the Sunday Social on August 1 for “prize credits”**



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Monday, July 19, 10am:** Join other UUCW folks for a nature hike in the Milwaukee River Greenway, led by Eddee Daniel. Meet at [Estabrook Park, south parking lot](#) (next to the radio tower) near Capitol Drive. We will walk a loop along both sides of the river between Capitol and Port Washington, about 3 miles in all. Dress (sturdy shoes! hat? raingear?) for a summer walk on an uneven, dirt trail.
- **Saturday, July 24, 9am:** Join Sarah Frey and Dennis Wanless for a fun and informative Butterfly Walk on the Monarch Trail in Wauwatosa.
- **TBD** (evening in late July): Join Eddee and me for another nature hike in Waukesha County.
- **August 1, 11:30am-1pm:** After Sunday worship, our "Nature" Social will take place outdoors at UUCW. Mark your calendars now....the "west lawn" provides a secluded, shady spot to meet and relax. Fun activities – including games and art – are also planned, to help us all connect, learn, and grow!

Week of July 4:

ACTIVITIES/SHARING:

- Continue exploring the outdoors this week....and **create a natural art installation**, a la [Andy Goldsworthy](#). Take care to use only materials found loose (not part of anything still alive), and carefully arrange them in a simple, but distinctive, design. Leave it for others to discover, and for nature to eventually take back.
-or **play “Bloomin’ Bingo”** (see printable card at bottom of this doc):
 1. Look for flowers in the neighborhood or park that match the characteristics on the BINGO card.
 2. Mark off each square that matches a found flower.
 3. **Save your card and bring it to the Sunday Social August 1 for “prize credits”**
- **Plant a flower**....Elliette, UUCW 2nd-grader, shared the following directions with me:
 1. Get a cup and put some dirt (soil) in it
 2. Poke your finger part way (not too far!) into the dirt
 3. Drop a seed into the hole, and pat the dirt down onto it
 4. Water it (every day) -- and give it sunlight and air, too



Andy Goldsworthy
<https://www.livingyourwildcreativity.com/art-gallery-1-mitchell-1>

Connect – Learn – Grow

- **Snap a pic** of any of the above activities and *share with [me](#) or [Kelly](#), so we can include it in an upcoming message!*

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Monday, July 19, 10am:** Join other UUCW folks for a nature hike in the Milwaukee River Greenway, led by Eddee Daniel. *Meet at [Estabrook Park, south parking lot](#) (next to the radio tower) near Capitol Drive. We will walk a loop along both sides of the river between Capitol and Port Washington, about 3 miles in all. Dress (sturdy shoes! hat? raingear?) for a summer walk on an uneven, dirt trail.*
- **TBD:** Join Sarah Frey and Dennis Wanless for a fun and informative Butterfly Walk on the Monarch Trail in Wauwatosa.
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- **August 1, 11:30am-1pm:** The Sunday "Nature" Social will take place outdoors at UUCW. *Mark your calendars now....our "west lawn" provides a secluded, shady spot to catch up and relax. Fun activities – including games and art – are planned, to help us all connect, learn, and grow!*

Week of June 27:

ACTIVITIES/SHARING:

- **Explore "Hands-off Nature"***take some time to simply observe, out in it or from a window, the variety and beauty of forms, colors and textures that Nature creates. Notice and express gratitude for the bits of Nature touching your life this week.*
- **Share** your experience, in pictures or words, with others in our congregation*sending them to [me](#) or [Kelly](#) so we can include them in an upcoming communication.*

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **August 1 ,11:30am:** The Sunday "Nature" Social will take place outdoors at UUCW. *Mark your calendars now....our "west lawn" provides a secluded, shady spot to catch up and relax. Fun activities – including games and art – are planned, to help us all connect, learn, and grow!*

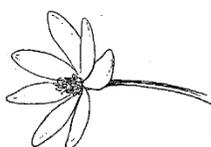
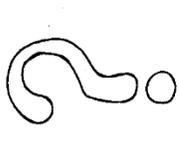
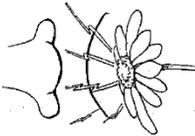
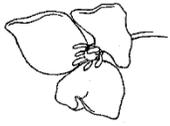
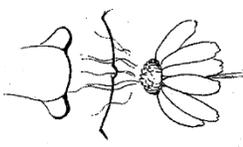
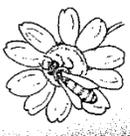


Flower & photo by UUCW student Hank, age 10,

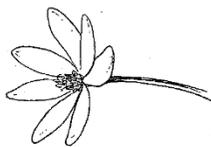
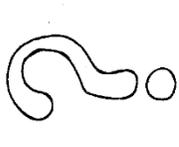
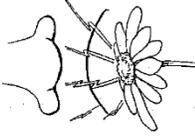
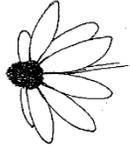
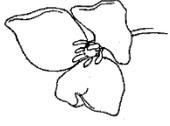
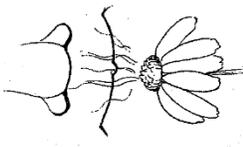
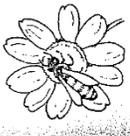
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Bloomin’ BINGO, from “Hands-on Nature” curriculum

FLOWER BINGO CARD

 <p>a flower in a shrub or tree</p>	 <p>a plant with one flower on each stem</p>	 <p>your favorite flower</p>
 <p>a pink flower</p>	 <p>a plant with many flowers on one stem</p>	 <p>a flower with a bird visiting it</p>
 <p>a flower with more than 5 petals</p>	 <p>a flower that doesn't smell good</p>	 <p>a yellow flower with a dark center</p>
 <p>a flower with 3 petals</p>	 <p>a flower that smells good</p>	 <p>a flower with an insect visiting it</p>

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Connect – Learn – Grow

“Stalk the Grass” card

1. Choose one tall grass plant. With eyes closed, run your fingers up the stem from the ground to the tip.

- How many *nodes* (swollen joints) are there? _____
- How many leaves? _____
- Sketch the plant, with its nodes and leaves in the right places, in the square:



2. Look for grass that is mowed.

- Have any formed flower heads? _____
- See where the newest leaves are.
- See if you can find nodes.
- Compare a mowed grass plant with one that has not been mowed. How is it different?

3. Look for grasses growing in difficult habitats (sidewalks, asphalt, parking lots). How do they seem to adjust to living in an unusual spot? (How are they different than those in more natural areas?)

4. Look for grass plants in different stages of flowering. Circle the stages you found:

before opening in bloom shedding pollen with seeds seeds gone

5. Look for plants that are grass-like but are not grass. How can you tell the difference?

6. (if allowed): Dig up one types of grass. Shake off the dirt and examine the roots. Do they form a shallow mat or are they in clumps? _____ Are there any *rhizomes* (connected root bits)? _____

Look at the edge of a disturbed area or in a garden for these. How long are the rhizomes? _____

7. Fill in holes and try to leave the area looking the way you found it.

Continue the discovery... on the back of this page, keep a daily journal of all you observe happening in a nearby patch of grass. How fast does the grass grow? What visitors do you notice? What other plants are present?