

PLANT PEOPLE

Part art, part recycling, part botany, all fun!
Got a bunch of used toilet paper rolls lying around? Repurpose them to create Plant People! Let your imaginations run wild in this fun program that provides opportunities for botanical explorations!



THE STEPS ARE SIMPLE!

Go for a walk! Whether around your neighborhood or simply in your front yard, go for a walk and explore your natural surroundings. What do you see growing? What types of different plants can you find, both growing and on the ground? Consider collecting plants of different colors, textures, and styles to give your Plant People different looks. Later, you can examine them from a scientific standpoint! You don't need a lush landscape to find creative options- All the green "hair" featured in the photo above came from weeds growing up through concrete! Make sure you also collect twigs to use for arms. Next, poke holes in the middle of each side of the toilet paper rolls- (We used a ballpoint pen for this, though any safe puncturing tool will work. Children may need help with this step if the roll is thick.) From here, draw your faces, create your hairstyles, and insert the twigs into the holes for arms!



GET CREATIVE!

Consider the plants you collect to be wigs- You can try different hairstyles on the faces of your Plant People. Which style fits their personality best? As the weeks go on, their “hair” will begin to die. That just means it’s time to give them a new hairdo! Go for a walk, collect new plants, give them a brand new look, just like our friends below!



OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXPANDED LEARNING

As your Plant People “age,” notice what happens to their “hair.” Does it wilt? Does its texture change? Does its color fade? Study these changes, observe their gradual movement each day, and make scientific guesses about why these changes are happening. You can even journal about your Plant People each day, and draw pictures of their changes over time. This is a great opportunity for some botany education! Using the iNaturalist app, you can identify what types of plants your Plant People have for hair- What species they are, where they are native to, how they thrive, what animals they attract, if they have any medicinal properties, and more!



iNaturalist is a free app that can be downloaded on any Smart device. By using iNaturalist to research your observations, you will be contributing research to a global scientific database! Click [here](#) for a tutorial on how to easily use iNaturalist. Additional kid-friendly plant identifier apps can be found [here](#).





You'll be surprised to discover how nice it feels to have these little friends hanging around your home.

HAVE FUN!

Making Plant People **Supports NGSS!**

Children will: Ask questions and define problems; Plan and carry out investigations; Analyze and interpret data; Construct explanation; and Engage in argument from evidence. They will explore: Patterns; Cause and effect; Energy and matter; and Stability and change, while learning about: Life Science; Earth Science; and Physical Science.



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