



PRESSED FLOWERS AND PLANTS

During the spring and summer, flowers and plants grow and bloom. Did you know that you can dry your flowers and plants using a flower and plant press? Learn how to create a flower and plant press and discover what happens.

This week's activities: Make a Flower and Plant Press

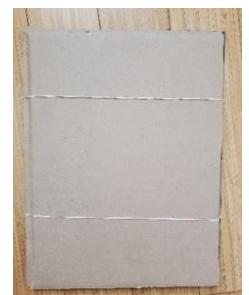
Make a Flower and Plant Press

Suggested materials:

- Cardboard
- Paper towel, parchment paper, or tissue
- Large elastics (or string)
- Scissors
- Newspaper
- Pen or pencil
- A heavy book
- Flowers and/or plants (make sure to ask an adult before you pick them.)

Directions

1. Cut two pieces of cardboard about 8.5 x 11 inches. You can use cardboard from any kind of cardboard box, like a cereal box. Don't forget to ask a grown-up to help cut the pieces if you need assistance.
2. Put the plants and/or flowers on a piece of paper towel. If you have more than one item, make sure they are not touching. Put another piece of paper towel on top so they're completely covered. Set aside.
3. Place a couple of pieces of newspaper on top of one piece of cardboard, then place your flower and paper towel package on top. Cover the package with more newspaper, then put the second piece of cardboard on top of everything. Use large elastics or string to bind the layers together.



- Place your plant press in safe spot where it isn't too damp. Leave it for two to four weeks. The longer you leave them in the press, the more the plants will dry. When ready, carefully remove the elastics and the top layers. Lift the paper towel layer and check out your plants.

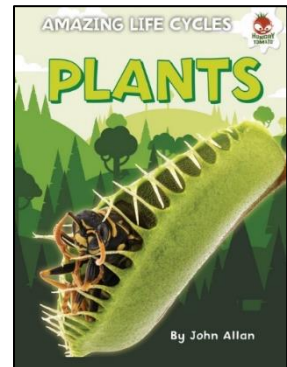
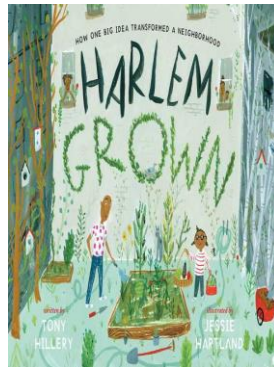
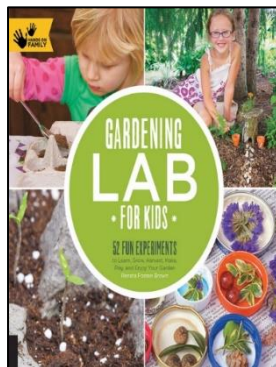
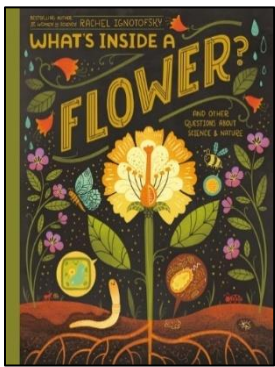


If you don't have cardboard, just use books and paper towel. Place your plants between pieces of paper towel and put them between the pages of a book that's large enough to cover the entire paper towel. Put a couple of heavy books on top.

How do your plants and flowers look different now from when you first put them in the press? How do you think the paper towel helped the flowers to dry? If you used wax paper or paper, would the results be the same? Try it and see what happens.

Links to eResources:

Check out our [eBooks](#) on these topics:



[Flowers](#) | [Plants](#)

On Hoopla Kids, search for **flowers and plants**. Two titles to check out are *Super Simple Pressed Flower Projects* by Kelly Doudna and *Flower Crafts* by Rebecca Sabelko.

On SummaKids, watch *Growth and Changes in Plants* by McIntyre Media Inc. Learn about how plants grow, how humans over the world use plants for different things and get an introduction to photosynthesis.

You can get a library card hpl.ca/online-registration.

If you would like to share one or all your creations, please take a picture and post it to social media using the hashtag, #HPLmakesomething.



#HPLmakesomething

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