



Quarrybrook
EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION CENTER

Program Title: Wild Edibles and Medicinals

Audience: 9th-12th grade students

Program Theme: We'll take an introductory walk to identify useful plants and trees found in our ecosystem. Natural resources have always been a part of human history. We are a part of nature and rely on it, even today. Walking through the natural ecosystem will remind us of our ability to feel at home in the woods and reconnect us to some of its available foods and medicines.

Program Goal: Students will be introduced to some useful edible and medicinal tree and plant species available in the current season.

Next Generation Connections:

Topic: HS-ESS3 Earth and Human Activity

Dimensions: ESS3.A Natural Resources

Crosscutting Concepts: Systems and System Models

Program Outline:

WILD EDIBLES AND MEDICINALS WALK (90-120 min.) – Students will be led by a Quarrybrook instructor on a walk through the woods to discover common tree and plant species used for edible or medicinal purposes. Species studied will depend on the season. Students will learn how to correctly identify each species. Students will make reference cards by pressing a key part of the plant, using index cards and contact paper.



Teachers will be very helpful in assisting students with pressing their specimens and checking for correct data recording about each species.

Objective: Students will learn to identify four to six species that can be useful for edible or medicinal purposes.

Intended Outcomes: Students will correctly identify species and their uses. Students will make a reference set of specimen cards, to be taken home with them.

Conclusion/Wrap-up: As a wrap up, we will discuss the species found and answer any questions students might have. We will also discuss the importance of working through all identifying characteristics to make a positive ID.