

The Right Plants in the Right Places

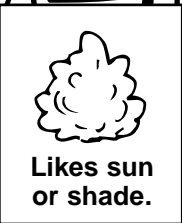
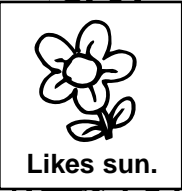
You do best in a certain kind of habitat. So do plants! To grow and thrive, it's important to have the right conditions. Be a friend to plants. Notice where each grows best. Then let it grow there!

Walk around your lawn, schoolyard, or neighborhood park. Notice where different plants grow well. What is it like? Is it wet or dry? Shady or sunny? Are there places where nothing grows?

Use what you learned on your walk. Draw ferns, cattails, flowers, and other plants where each would grow best.

**Make a path from the cabin to the lake.
Put the right plants in the right places.**

Plants growing in their own best habitat are the best survivors.



Did you see any Creeping Charlie on your walk? It grows well in shady, moist places. It is a member of the mint family and makes pretty hanging baskets.



Tips for Grown-ups:

Use native plants in the landscape. Not only are they interesting, but they also result in less water use; less need for pesticides and fertilizers; and better habitat for butterflies, birds, and other wildlife. See: <http://www.extension.umn.edu/pesticides/IPM/pubnplant.htm>

"Landscape Design with Native Plants"
<http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/backyard/landscape/>

