

Game Changer:

Encouraging Cross-Cultural Collaboration
through Fun, Interactive Interpretive Experience
in the Discovery Forest, Kenora, Ontario

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Common Ground Research Forum

“... understand and build capacity for cross-cultural collaboration and social learning for regional sustainability.”

- Newton, T. (2010). Criteria for Project Approval. Common Ground Research Forum



Lake of the Woods Discovery Centre

“... celebrate the coexistence and sharing of resources between the City of Kenora and Treaty 3 communities” and to “provide infrastructure needed within the community for cultural activities.”

- Paterson, H. (2012). Director of the Lake of the Woods Discovery Centre. *Personal Communication*.



Research Purpose

To design a prototype of an outdoor activity/game for Kenora youth that would be participatory, fun and would build upon local cross-cultural elements.

The Prototype

1. Pre-Instruction

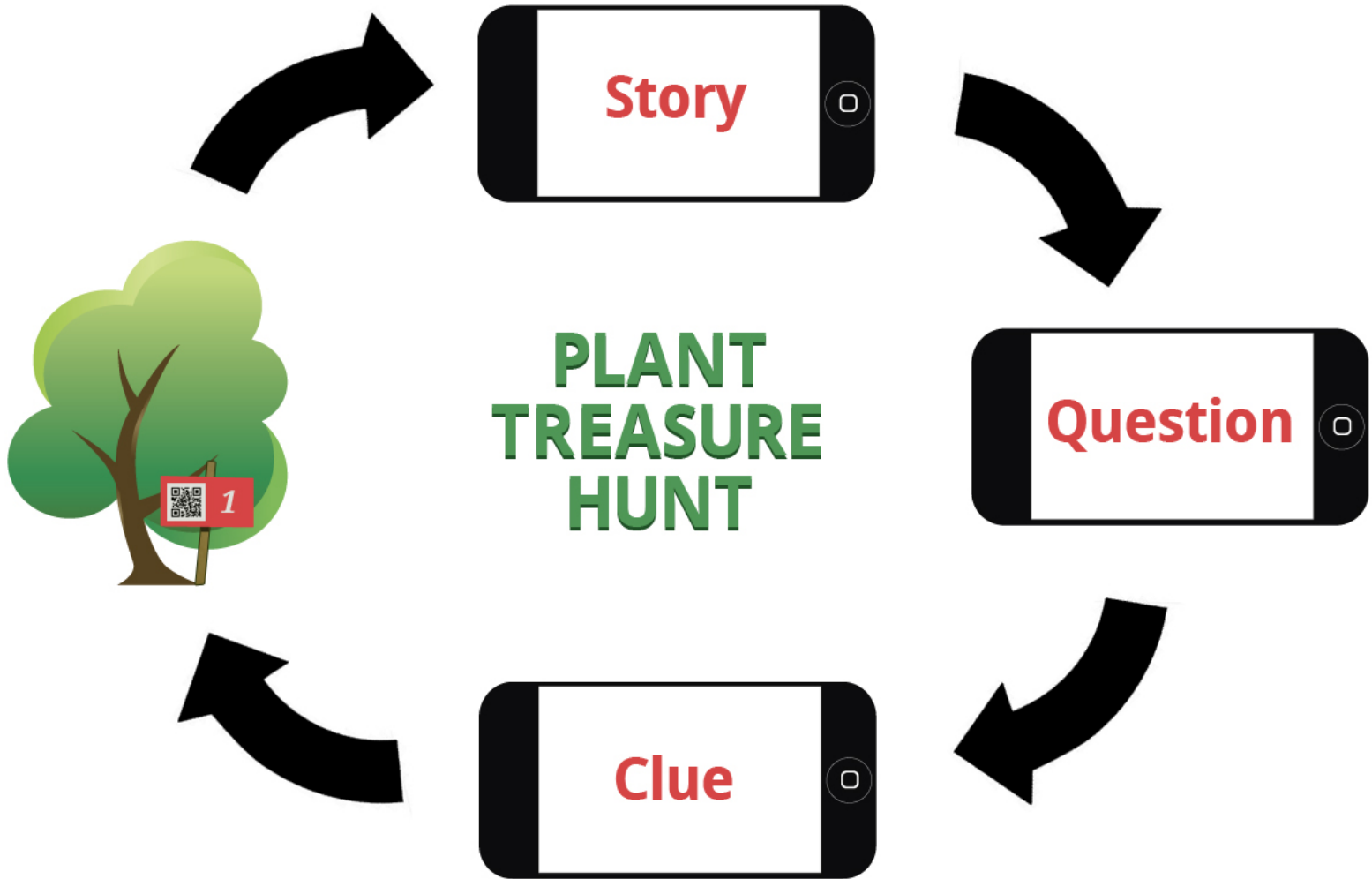


- ➔ Teaching about the 25 local plants
- ➔ Facebook group page, managed by the teacher
- ➔ Competing groups

2. Treasure Hunt



- ➔ Trip to the Lake of the Woods Discovery Centre (LWDC)
- ➔ Play Plant Treasure Hunt in the Discovery Forest





1





Highbush Cranberry

Viburnum Trilobum | Aniibiminaatig

“Our friend told us that when he was fishing and he would open up the fish in the fall, they would have all these little stones in them and he was worried about what they were? And it was Highbush Cranberries... hanging over the water... falling into the water and the fish were eating them and they were getting them in their gut. The stones were Highbush Cranberry stones.”

— *Katherine Olson*

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Answer the following question about the local story you just read.

What did Katherine's friend discover inside the fish he had caught?

Type your answer in the box below:

Submit Answer

[*← Back to Story*](#)

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What did Katherine's friend discover inside the fish he had caught?

Type your answer in the box below:

Highbush Cranberry stones

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Good Job!

Here is your clue to the next local plant:

"It made the best pulp for white paper"
although its name is Black _____

— *Peter Olson*

Black Spruce

Picea Mariana | Sesegaanaatig

"I needed a flag pole for my yard, so I went over to Kathy's mom's swamp across the way, over at the farm, and I cut down a Black Spruce. There was a stand of them in there. I cut down this long, straight spruce tree and it was only about, at the base, it was about four inches in diameter; it was at least thirty feet long to the top, maybe forty feet, and straight as an arrow. But when I cut it down, I looked at the cross section of the cut, at the growth rings. The tree was a hundred years old, and it was only four inches in diameter!"

— Peter Olson

[Continue →](#)

Answer the following question about the local story you just read.

How many inches in diameter was the one-hundred years old Black Spruce that Peter cut down?

Type your answer in the box below:

Submit Answer

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Answer the following question about the local story you just read.

How many inches in diameter was the one-hundred years old Black Spruce that Peter cut down?

Type your answer in the box below:

Two inches

Submit Answer

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Answer the following question about the local story you just read.

How many inches in diameter was the one-hundred years old Black Spruce that Peter cut down?

Type your answer in the box below:

Two inches

Incorrect. Try again.

Submit Answer

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Answer the following question about the local story you just read.

How many inches in diameter was the one-hundred years old Black Spruce that Peter cut down?

Type your answer in the box below:

Four inches

Submit Answer

[← Back to Story](#)

Way to Go!

Here is your clue to the next local plant:

"During the summer, he looks exactly like his narrow-needled brothers. During the winter, he blends in with the deciduous trees. He is a conifer that's not an evergreen "

— *Dana Doe (pseudonym)*

CAMERON BAY

MOIST ECOSITE
- BLACK ASH
- TAMARACK
- BLACK SPRUCE

RED & WHITE PINE ECOSITE

LAKE OF THE WOODS
DISCOVERY CENTRE

Landscape Planting Concept

April 2011

SIGN



SEED

SEED

WHITE SPRUCE ECOSITE

DRY SLOPE ECOSITE:
- SUMAC
- BEARBERRY
- JUNIPER
- TIGER LILY
- DAISIES

ASPEN ECOSITE

BLUEBERRY ECOSITE

JACK PINE ECOSITE

AREA OF SOD
IN BUILDING
CONTRACT

BUR OAK ECOSITE

BIRCH ECOSITE

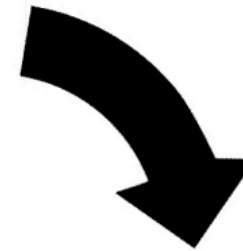
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WHITE CEDAR ECOSITE

LAKE OF THE WOODS



PLANT TREASURE HUNT



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3. Find in the Wild



- ➔ Students look for the 25 plants in the wild
- ➔ Pinterest accounts for the competing groups
- ➔ Collecting photos of the 25 plants

<http://www.pinterest.com/>

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4. Photo Exhibit

- ➔ End of the year photo exhibit featuring all the photos taken by the students throughout the year
- ➔ Online, at the LWDC and at the school

Photo Exhibit



student's photo

student's photo



student's photo



student's photo



Thank You