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MDC North Campus

Native Plant Education to Reality

Subject: Native plant propagation, husbandry and distribution.

Topic: Establish a native plant nursery to educate students on the value of native plants in the landscape and to make native plants available for use on campus and in the community.

Instructional Objective:

1. Student will learn the values of Native Plants in the landscape
2. Student will identify native plants, collect seed and grow them to landscape size plants
3. Students will target campus, college and community need for the plants
4. Students will educate the plant recipients on plant care, maintenance and planting procedures

Learning Outcomes:

1. Communicate effectively using listening, speaking, reading and writing skills.
10. Describe how natural systems function and recognize the impact of humans on the environment

Content Outline: Students will collect native plant seed from the South Florida landscape. The student will clean, plant and care for the seed until the plants reach landscape size. The plants will be grown in the nursery bed area on the southwest corner of the science complex at MDC North Campus. Students will learn the care of the plants by growing them to landscape size. The student will research the plants cultural requirements and apply this knowledge to their plant husbandry techniques. Once the plants are landscape size the plants will be used for campus, college and community landscape projects. A horticulture club will be established to assure for proper plant care over the years it will take to grow the plants to landscape size.

Instructional Strategy: This lesson will appeal to visual, tactile and audio learners. The student after researching, reading and being taught about Florida Native Plants will collect the seed from the wild and grow the plants to landscape size. The students will be involved in all phases of the process from native plant selection from which the seed is collected to growing the collected seed and caring for the seedlings until they are full size plants.

Assessment: Success will be measured by the number of students involved in the project and the number of landscape projects for which the plants will be used. This project takes concept to reality.

Materials:

- a. Seed from student collected native plants
- b. 10 bales of 40 pound promix potting soil
- c. 500 1 gallon plastic pots