Leaf Collection Project

Dear Parents and Students,

This month in science, we will be exploring plants. The final project will be a leaf collection project. This project will need to be completed outside of school independently. The follow letter contains the objective, task, requirements, procedure, and the scoring guide for this project.

**Due Date: Monday, October 28, 2013**

Objective: To develop a collection and extend knowledge of the different types of leaves found in Illinois.

Task: Students need to find and present a MINIMUM of 10 different leaves to the class.

Requirements:

1. You must collect a MINIMUM of 10 different leaves.
2. You will need to decide which final presentation project you will use to display your leaves.
3. Have full collection ready to present on **Monday, October 28.**

Procedure:

1. Always get permission before collecting leaves on someone else’s property.
2. Collect at least two of each type of leaf in case one tears.
3. If your leaf is an example of a compound leaf, be sure to remove an entire leaf, not just a leaflet.
4. OPTIONAL: Take a picture of the tree to place next to your leaf on your display.
5. After collecting your leaves, press them by placing them in a phone book for 3-5 days. This will help flatten each lead for a better display.
6. Make sure to label each leaf with the following information:
   1. Name of the tree
   2. Location of the collected sample.
   3. Date
   4. Type of Leaf (simple, compound, or needle?)
   5. Leaf Margin (smooth, toothed, or lobed)
7. If you are mounting your leaves, make sure to use a sturdy piece of paper or poster board.
8. Practice presenting your findings and information.

Final Presentation Options:

1. Booklet with a page for each leaf.
2. Poster displaying each leaf.
3. PowerPoint with scans of each leaf.

Here are some helpful website when determining what type of tree or leaf you have:

1. Leaf type <http://www.geocities.com/mrsscienceteacher/Leaf_Project/Leaf_Reference_page.html>
2. Tree Identification using leaves <http://forestry.about.com/od/treeidentification/tp/tree_key_id_start.htm>
3. What Tree is that? <http://www.arborday.org/trees/whatTree/>
4. Identifying tree’s scientific name <http://www.oplin.lib.oh.us/tree/name/commonname.html>

The following is the rubric that will be used to grade your project.