

Talcott Mountain Science Center

Topic Botany - week 6

Home School Science

Instructor Dr. Z

Home Links

Date Nov 3, 2023

Here's some information about the activities your student did with us. Links at the bottom will help you explore further. Enjoy!

What did we do (content, skills, data collection)?

- * [Lesson about leaf pigments](#)
- * [Leaf chromatography lab](#)
- * [Plant survey on campus](#)
- * [Continued pine needle baskets](#)

How did we do it (materials & methods)?

- * We learned about leaf pigments and how light wavelengths are used for photosynthesis.
- * We collected leaves of different colors, cut them into pieces, and mashed them in a mortar/pestle with rubbing alcohol to release the pigments. Then we poured into test tubes, soaked the tubes in boiling water, then added chromatography paper strips. These were left in for several hours (Dr. Z removed the strips at the end of the day). We will review our results next week!
- * We went on a tour of campus and created a tally of mosses, ferns, gymnosperms, and angiosperms (monocots vs dicots)

Where can we find out more?

- * <https://harvardforest.fas.harvard.edu/leaves/pigment> (all about leaf pigments)