

Get to Know: The Dandelion

Taraxacum

Make a wish...
Seeds are dispersed by the wind!

Magnified Seed

Hollow stem

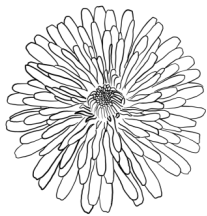
Leaves make for a tasty salad.
Wash them well!

Can be found almost year round.

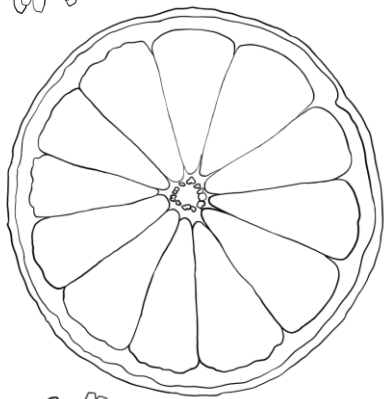
Cross section of flower



For more visit: www.FairfieldCountyParks.org



Dandelion and Lime Tea



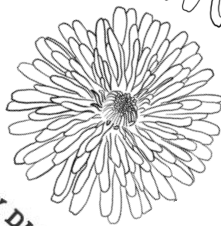
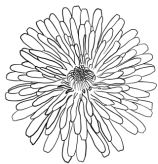
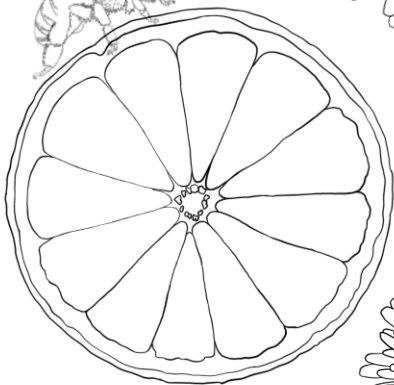
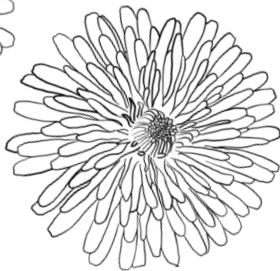
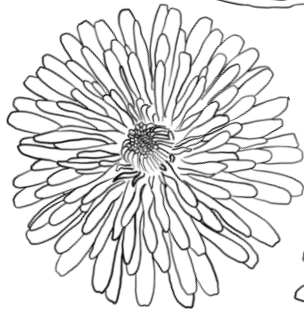
Equipment:

- Colander (for rinsing)
- Cold water (for rinsing)
- Knife
- Mug
- Spoon

Ingredients:

- Fresh dandelion flowers (around 1 qt)
- Hot water
- Limes
- Honey (to taste)

Wash your hands!



1) Pick fresh dandelions. Make sure all flowers are free of chemicals and are far from a roadside or animal waste. Pick only yellow flower heads. Young leaves can be also used in a salad.

2) Wash your dandelions well with cold water.

3) In a mug, mix hot water and honey.

4) With help from an adult, cut the limes and squeeze the juice from $\frac{1}{2}$ lime into your mug. Stir well.

5) Add dandelion flowers and stir.

6) Refrigerate for 3-4 hours until cool. Drain flowers, or leave in cup. You can also freeze leftover dandelions into ice cubes!

Drink within 36 hours.

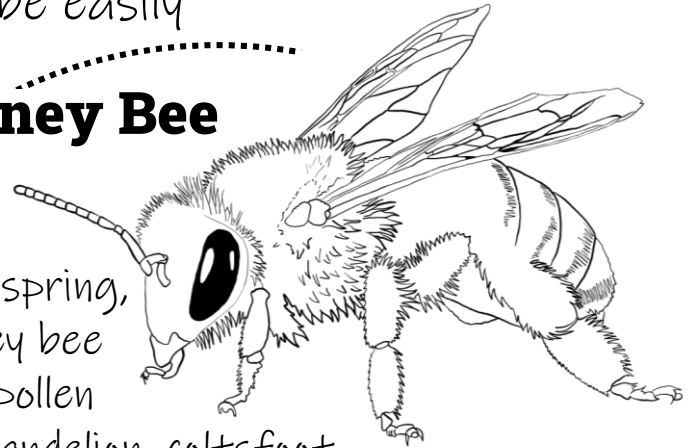


Coltsfoot: Dandelion Look Alike

Coltsfoot is a yellow flower often found in roadside ditches that blooms in early spring and can be easily confused with a dandelion.

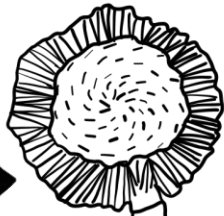
Look close, there are actually many differences between the two plants!

Honey Bee



In early spring, the Honey bee collects pollen from dandelion, coltsfoot, early spring wildflowers and flowering trees. Did you know that all three species listed on this page are nonnative to Ohio? They were each introduced to the United States by European Immigrants.

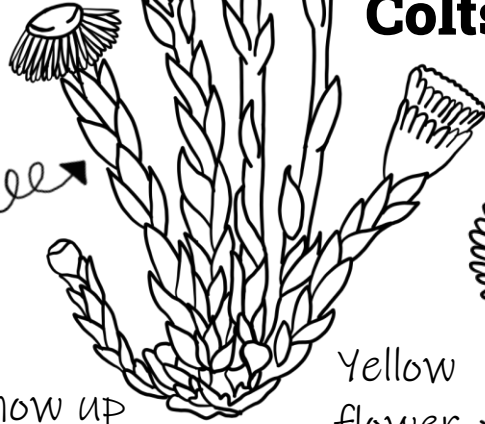
White seeds carried by the wind



Yellow flower



Scaly and fuzzy stem



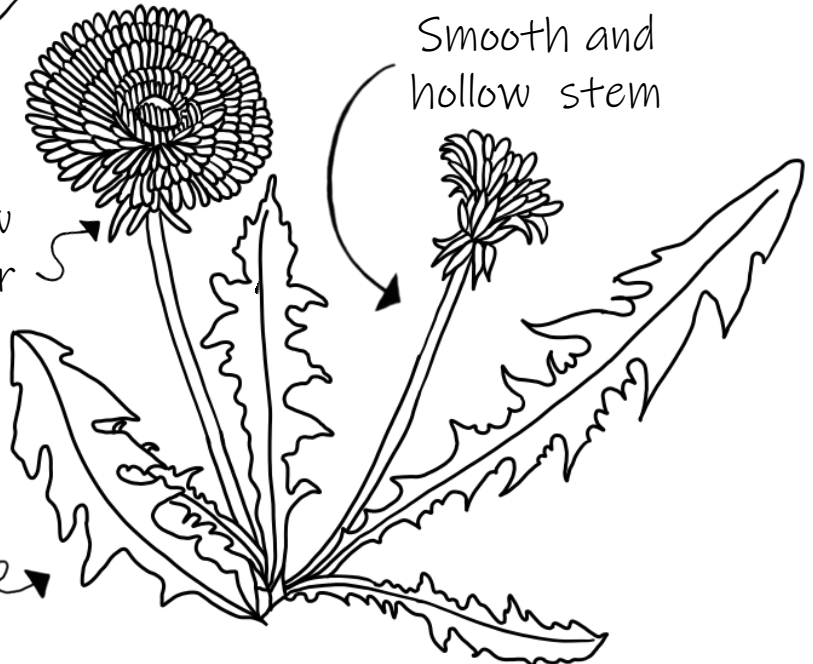
Coltsfoot

Leaves show up after plant begins to bloom

Yellow flower

Dandelion

Smooth and hollow stem



Large toothed leaves



Spring Flowers



What spring flowers can you find? Draw them growing in the pot below:

