



Wildflower Exploration

YOUR MISSION

To learn about the native wildflower **DUTCHMAN'S BREECHES**.

Plants often have lots of common names. Scientists give each plant one unique scientific name to be sure everyone is talking about the same plant. The scientific name for DUTCHMAN'S BREECHES is *Dicentra cucullaria*.

YOUR CLUES

Where to find it (habitat): You can find Dutchman's Breeches in the woods.

What the flowers look like: Dutchman's Breeches' flowers have 4 white petals with yellow tips. They look like upside-down pants. Breeches are an old word that means "pants."

What the leaves look like: The leaves are finely divided and look lacy.

What you might find in spring: In April, the leaves start growing. The flowers open in April or May. Leaves are withering by June.

Interesting facts: Dutchman's Breeches is an ephemeral, which means "lasting for a short time." This plant grows in early spring, then, its above-ground plant parts die before summer. It is a perennial because it remains underground as clusters of tiny tubers through the summer, fall, and winter but sprouts again the following spring.

YOUR NOTES

List two facts below that you want to share about your plant.

Fact #1. I learned... _____

Fact #2. I learned... _____

Detectives learn by asking questions. Write one question below you would like to discover about your plant.

Something I would like to discover about my plant is _____

You can email your question to our youth educator, Raylene Ludgate at RGL3@cornell.edu

Use a wildflower field guide to answer the question below. In the index of the book, look up your plant under its name Dutchman's Breeches.

What is the arrow pointing to in your plant? Circle the correct answer:

Flower

Leaves

Using the picture on our website or in wildflower guide, draw a picture of your plant below:

