



## Wildflower Exploration

### YOUR MISSION

To learn about the native wildflower **GOLDEN ALEXANDERS**.

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 GOLDEN ALEXANDERS is *Zizia aurea*.

### YOUR CLUES

Where to find it (habitat): You can find Golden Alexanders in moist woodlands and meadows.

What the flowers look like: Look for masses of gold yellow flowers in umbrella-shaped groups called umbels. Each small individual flower in the umbel has 5 petals.

What the leaves look like: Leaves are many times divided into 3 to 5 leaflets. Each leaflet has saw-like edges.

What you might find in spring: Look for finely divided leaves with many bright yellow flowers.

Interesting facts: Golden Alexanders is in the parsley family. Other members of this family include carrots and celery as well as many spices like dill, fennel and caraway. This wildflower has a perennial life cycle storing food underground in roots.

### YOUR NOTES

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

Fact #1. I learned... \_\_\_\_\_

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Fact #2. I learned... \_\_\_\_\_

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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](mailto: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 Alexanders, Golden.

**What plant family does Golden Alexanders belong to?** Circle the correct answer:

Parsley Family

Mustard Family

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

