



## Wildflower Exploration

### YOUR MISSION

To learn about the native wildflower **MAYAPPLE**.

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 MAYAPPLE is *Podophyllum peltatum*.

### YOUR CLUES

Where to find it (habitat): Mayapple grows in the woods. It can grow in sun or shade.

What the flowers look like: Mayapple has flowers hidden underneath its leaves. The white flowers have 6 to 9 petals.

What the leaves look like: This plant has large umbrella-like lobed leaves.

What you might find in spring: Mayapple leaves look like little green closed umbrellas when they are pushing out of the soil. Look for Mayapple flowers in mid-May.

Interesting facts: This plant has an apple-shaped fruit. The unripe fruit and all the plant parts are poisonous to eat! Mayapple spreads by rhizomes so you often see large patches of these plants. This plant has a perennial life cycle and stores food underground in its rhizomes.

### 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 \_\_\_\_\_

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*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 Mayapple.

**What is another common name listed for this plant?** Circle the correct answer:

Umbrella Plant

Mandrake

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

