



Wildflower Exploration

YOUR MISSION

To learn about the native wildflower **SHARP-LOBED HEPATICA**.

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 SHARP-LOBED HEPATICA is *Hepatica acutiloba*.

YOUR CLUES

Where to find it (habitat): You can find *Hepatica* growing in moist or dry woods.

What the flowers look like: The flowers have no petals. Instead they have 6 to 10 colored sepals. The sepals can be white, pink, or blue.

What the leaves look like: This plant has shiny leaves with 3 lobes.

What you might find in spring: You can find leaves that have lived through the winter and also new flowers and leaves.

Interesting facts: One of the common names for this plant is liverleaf. The lobed leaves reminded people of the shape of the human liver. This wildflower is unique among most other wildflowers because its leaves overwinter above ground. On the first warm days of spring, it can immediately start making food by photosynthesis before its new leaves grow.

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 Hepatica.

What family does it belong to? Circle the correct answer:

Mint Family

Buttercup Family

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

