



Wildflower Exploration

YOUR MISSION

To learn about the native wildflower **WILD GERANIUM**.

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 WILD GERANIUM is *Geranium maculatum*.

YOUR CLUES

Where to find it (habitat): You can find Wild Geranium in woods and meadows.

What the flowers look like: This plant has pink flowers with 5 petals and 5 sepals.

What the leaves look like: This plant has hairy leaves with 5 lobes.

What you might find in spring: You can find the flowers and deeply-cut leaves.

Interesting facts: The fruit has an interesting way of dispersing its seeds. The seeds are at the base of the fruit and attached by bands to the top of the fruit. When the seeds are ripe, each band lets go at the base only and, like a sling-shot, forcibly flings the seeds several feet away. Wild Geranium has a perennial life cycle storing food underground in rhizomes in winter.

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 Wild Geranium.

What months might you find this flower in bloom? Circle the correct answer:

April to June

July to September

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

