



Wildflower Exploration

YOUR MISSION

To learn about the native wildflower **SPRING BEAUTY**.

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 SPRING BEAUTY is *Claytonia virginica* and *Claytonia caroliniana*.

YOUR CLUES

Where to find it (habitat): You can find Spring Beauty in moist woods.

What the flowers look like: Spring Beauty has 2 green sepals. They have 5 pink or light-pink petals that have dark pink lines. The stamens have pink-colored pollen. The flowers are only open on sunny days.

What the leaves look like: Leaves are either grass-like or paddle-shaped depending on the kind.

What you might find in spring: Look close to the ground for a pair of leaves with delicate flowers.

Interesting facts: Spring Beauty is an ephemeral, which means lasting for a short time. You have to look carefully to find this plant because it is only above ground for about a month and it is tiny! It is a perennial because it remains underground as a corm most of the year.

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 Spring Beauty.

What color are the flowers? Circle the correct answer:

White to pink

Red to purple

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

