

Plant Care

Duckweed (Lemna sp.) A small floating plant ½ inch across with 2-4 leaves and roots extending below the water. Moved by wind currents and is a rapid multiplier. This aquatic plant can be maintained under lights.

Elodea (Ancharis sp.) An escaped aquarium trade plant now found growing in hard-water clear streams. It can be maintained in the classroom in a water container placed in a windowsill or in the classroom aquarium with a hood light.

Hornwort (Ceratophyllum sp.) Called coontail, this true submerged plant can be kept in the classroom as a rooted or floating plant in the aquarium with a hood lamp.

Marchatia sp. This liverwort is a member of a primitive plant group lacking vascular tissue, and needs diffuse light, cool temperatures of 18°-20° degrees c, moist but not wet substrate and high humidity. Liverwort can be maintained in terrarium setting or on flats of half sand half peat under medium lights and covered with a glass or plexiglass box. This plant is restricted to use by secondary teachers.

Artillary Plant – Sometimes mistaken as a fern, this plant propagates easily from leaf cuttings placed in damp medium. Can be used in a shady terrarium with high humidity.

Begonia – Keep in shady area and soil needs to be evenly moist, too much water will result in rotting stems. Can be propagated by cutting at stem joint and stuck in pot with dirt.

Bryophyllum sp – A succulent. Can be propagated with leaf cuttings or from the new plants growing along the leaf edge on base of plant. Requires a sunny window and drying out between watering.

Cacti – Allow cacti to dry out completely between watering, to avoid root rot. Do not over water. Place in a sunny window.

Coleus sp. – Brightly, large colored leaves and small spikes of flowers. This plant is easily propagated with stem cuttings. Moderate light.

Geranium (pelargonium sp.) – The bright scented flowers usually have 5 petals, 5 sepals, 10 stamens and 5 styles. The leaves can be used in stomata and plant respiration studies. Keep in medium to bright light at a moderate temperature. Let stay slightly pot bound and pinch back to create a bushier plant.

Hormodin – A plant hormone powder used to stimulate root development in woody plants. Take the cut end of the stem and dip into the powder, knock off the excess and plant immediately.