**Virtual Leaf Collection**

**Elmore Park Middle**

**6th grade AE for MAY 2020**

**Materials Needed:**

* iPhone or any type of phone that takes pictures. You can use a camera if needed (make

sure the battery is charged)

* School laptop with Internet access

**Subject Area:** Science, ELA

**Grade Level:** Grade 6

**TN Standards:** Computer Science FCO.4, CC.1, CC.2, ISA.5

**Time Allowance**: Approximately three 1 hour periods. One hour or more is needed for collecting pictures of leaves, 1 hour for analyzing the pictures to determine species, and 1 hour for creating a Keynote, PowerPoint, or Prezi.

**Description:** Students will use their phone to take selfies of themselves holding tree leaves in the area, identify them, and create a presentation of their choice about the selected trees.

**Objectives:** 1. Students will collect leaf samples of native trees for identification. 2. Students will identify trees by their leaves. 3. Students will gather information about each species of tree. 4. Students will create a presentation that identify local trees and give specific information regarding each species.

**Implementation:**

**LESSON 1**: Students take a walk around their neighborhood, local park, or anywhere there is a variety of tree species. Remember to practice social distancing!

* Each student takes a selfie picture of themselves with the leaves of as many different species of trees as possible (at least 5, but no more than 10). Students will be predicting the species later and then using the Internet to discover what each leaf actually is.
* Download the pictures and place on a Pages/Word document and email it to your teacher. She will save all the pictures on her webpage, so that all students may have access. Number each photo, but do not label it with species or common name.

**LESSON 2**: Students look at all the leaves on the teacher’s webpage to see if they can be grouped in different ways, based on how the leaf looks. The student is just predicting and grouping at this point.

* Students will go to the link below to identify each tree by its leaves, bark, and nuts/fruit. Students should find the genus species name as well as the common name of each tree.

<http://www.tnrcd.org/Envirothon_Study_Resources/tree%20identification%20booklet.pdf>

This book will help identify Tennessee Trees, **BUT YOU MUST BE AWARE OF THE PAGE NUMBERS AT THE BOTTOM OF EACH PAGE. THEY ARE NOT IN ORDER BECAUSE OF HOW THIS PAMPHLET WAS COPIED.**

* Once the tree is identified, students should find more information regarding each tree, and answer these quesitons: Is it native to our region? Is it deciduous or coniferous? Does it produce blossoms, fruit, nuts, seeds, etc.? What is its rate of growth? What is the tree commonly used for?

**LESSON 3** : Students create a simple Power Point, Keynote or Prezi presentation, etc., that contains the information gathered on each tree.

* Use the original selfie picture of you holding the leaf.
* When finished, send the presentation to your teacher via email. Your teacher will give you individual feedback.

This is not a graded project, just a fun way to get outside during our social distancing or shelter-in-place.

**Adaptation:** If a student has no access to a iPhone or digital camera, they may use the pictures that other classmates have submitted of their leaves. They will be on my website labeled Virtual Leaf Collection.