

Signs of Spring

Episode 3: Buds, Blossoms, and Bulbs

In Episode 3, we noticed some new signs of spring this week and learned how paying attention to the changes in a landscape during a single season can give us clues about when it is time to plant certain vegetables.

Part A: When should I plant my vegetables?

What print resources can help us find more precise planting information for each vegetable?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Part B: What's in bloom this week?

Directions: Fill in the blanks in order to describe the plants we found blooming today. Can you find these in your neighborhood?

PLANT	DESCRIPTION
<p>Eastern Redbud tree</p>  <p><i>Cercis canadensis</i> iNaturalist</p>	<p>The buds and edible blossoms of this tree are pink and red. These occur not only on the branches but also on the _____.</p> <p>This tree is usually about 10-30 feet high. We refer to trees of this size as _____ trees.</p> <p>The leaves of this tree are _____-shaped.</p>  <p>Redbuds are in the _____ Family, just like peas and beans.</p>

Forsythia



Genus: *Forsythia*
[iNaturalist](https://www.inaturalist.org/taxa/11944)

Forsythia is a **shrub** with yellow **blossoms**. It is one of the first plants to bloom in late winter and early spring.

This week, forsythia is transitioning between two stages of its life cycle. It bloomed several weeks ago, and now it is _____.

Violets



Genus: *Viola*
[iNaturalist](https://www.inaturalist.org/taxa/11944)

Like we saw in the video, it's fun to find new plants. Find a flower in your neighborhood that you are unfamiliar with, and upload it to www.inaturalist.org or use a field guide to identify it.

Grape Hyacinth



Genus: *Muscari*
[iNaturalist](https://www.inaturalist.org/taxa/11944)

You can recognize this plant by its _____ leaves and its cluster of flowers, which looks like a cluster of _____.

This is an ornamental flower that is planted as a **bulb** in the fall. A bulb functions as _____ that helps a plant to stay alive while it is **dormant**.

What is **dormancy**? _____

BONUS: What are two vegetables or herbs that ALSO produce **bulbs**?

_____ & _____