

## Learning With Public Purpose



### Wildflower Identification and Tree Study in East Feliciana Parish

*Through plot studies, leaf rubbings, and journaling, students will identify the wildflowers and trees around the town of Slaughter.*

#### Essential Question

What are some of the local wildflowers and trees in the town of Slaughter?

#### Introduction

The Tree Identification and Wildflower Study is an educational project developed by Casey Maryman and Cara Branch, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teachers in East Feliciana Parish, to provide place-based learning opportunities for their students in science. Mapping, identifying, and journaling are very important components of the elementary school curriculum. State wildlife experts and local community members, along with the Rural School and Community Trust have made implementing the project possible.

#### Project Goals

- Students will learn to ask questions about objects and events in the local community.
- Students will use a variety of formats to describe procedures of an experiment.
- Students will compare structures and functions of a variety of wildflowers.
- Students will compare the leaf structures of trees to identify the tree.
- Project will support learning across the curriculum.
- Project will engage students as partners in work with peers and community members.

#### Implementation

Phase One of the Tree Identification and Wildflower Study has been completed. Students have researched and explored the local wildflowers in the town of Slaughter. In Phase One, we also wrote journals about the wildflowers and the experience of this experiment. Phase two is when the students complete leaf rubbings, journaling about trees, and identify trees in the local community. The culmination of Phase Two will be the brochure of wildflowers and trees around the community. Copies of the brochure will be available in the Town Hall in Slaughter.