

Explorations in Ethnobotany

‘ethno’= people
‘botany’ = plants



Discovery Honors Core
Spring 2019



What is Ethnobotany?

- The study of the relationship between people and plants
- An ethnobotanist explores how plants are used for food, shelter, medicine, clothing, trade, and religion





Objective

In this core research project you'll delve into a culturally, economically, and environmentally significant plant



*Hmmm...
what plant would Mr Jolly
choose?*



Components

Research Paper

second grading period

3-4 page paper

In-text citations and
Works Cited page

Showcase

third grading period

Hands-on experience

Poster or multimedia
presentation





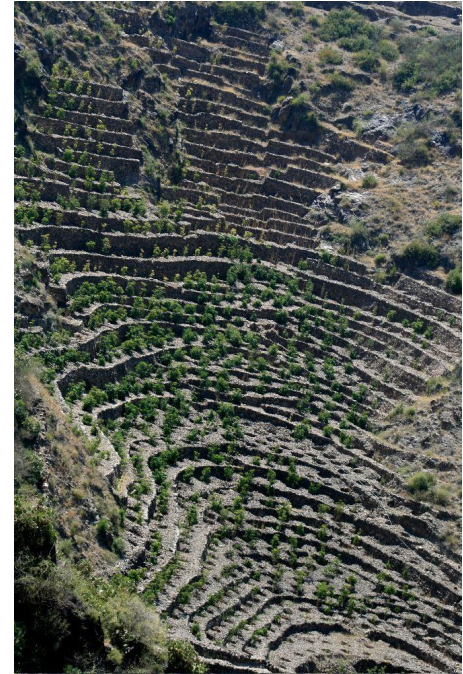
Research Focus

- Scientific & common names, etymology *name origins*
- Historic and current geographic distribution
- Plant ecology
- Native and contemporary role in culture
- Impact on environment & health
- Role in economies



Essential Questions

- How is the plant culturally significant? *art, religion, diet, medicine, ceremony*
- What are the impacts of the plant's use, production or trade on the environment, resources, or human health?
- How has the use and trade of the plant affected local and/or global economies?





Timeline

Friday **March 8**

Research Notes

5 reliable sources identified

Half-page paraphrased notes per source

Wednesday **March 27**

Outline of paper

Via Google docs

Friday **April 12**

Paper due

Following peer review via Juno

Friday **April 26**

Revised paper due

Thursday **May 2**

Presentation proposal due

Tangible product & demonstration

Friday **May 10**

Project Showcase



Topic Choices

Tomato

Chile

Peanut

Potato

Rice

Maize

Sweet potato

Cacao

Coffee

Tobacco

Cinchona

Sage

Olive

Rubber Tree

Ephedra

Poppy

Coca

Cork

Taro

Manioc

Soybeans

Aloe

Tea

Wheat

Oil Palm

Cotton

Coconut

Barley

Mahogany

Teak

Eucalyptus

Tea Tree

Hemp

Sugar beet

Sugar cane

Quinoa

Amaranth

Ginger (tumeric,
ginseng)

Bamboo

Millet

Redwood



Works Cited

Ethnobotany. Food and Culture Encyclopedia. Answers.com. 3 November 2008.

Owen, Thompson. Travel library Fotos. Sweetmarias.com. 20 Jan 2013

Veilleux, C. and S.R.King. An Introduction to Ethnobotany. Access Excellence. 3 November 2008

