

Materials Needed:

- Drawing paper
 - Pencils
 - Crayons, colored pencils, or markers
 - Optional: Pictures or books showing art featuring plants and animals (e.g., library books, art prints)
 - Optional: Access to online museum galleries (with supervision)
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Introduction: What are Flora and Fauna? (5 minutes)

Let's start by talking about two exciting words: Flora and Fauna! Does anyone know what they mean? Flora refers to all the plants in a specific region or time – like flowers, trees, and grass. Fauna refers to all the animals! Think about birds, mammals, insects, and fish. Artists LOVE painting and drawing plants and animals. Why do you think that is? (Discuss ideas: they are beautiful, interesting, colorful, tell stories, part of our world).

Art Exploration: Nature Detectives! (15 minutes)

Now, let's become art detectives! We're going to look at some pictures of artworks that feature amazing flora and fauna. (If you have books or online access, show examples like Henri Rousseau's jungle paintings, John James Audubon's bird illustrations, or Georgia O'Keeffe's large flower paintings. If not, describe them vividly).

As we look at each piece, let's ask ourselves:

- What specific plants (flora) or animals (fauna) do you see?
- What colors did the artist use? Are they bright, dull, realistic?
- What shapes do you notice? Are they smooth, jagged, simple, detailed?
- Does the artwork look like a real photograph, or is it more imaginative or dream-like?
- How does looking at this artwork make you feel? Happy, curious, calm?
- Why do you think the artist chose *this* particular plant or animal?

Discuss how different artists see and show nature in unique ways. Some try to make it look exactly like it does in real life, while others use their imagination to make it extra colorful or stylized.

Activity: Create Your Own Flora & Fauna Masterpiece! (25 minutes)

It's your turn to be the artist! Think about your favorite plant or animal, or maybe a fun combination of both (like a flower with butterfly wings!). You can draw something you've seen in our garden, a pet, or something completely from your imagination.

Using your paper and drawing tools:

1. Lightly sketch your main idea with a pencil.
 2. Think about the details: What textures does it have (smooth petals, rough bark, furry coat, scaly skin)?
 3. Add color! Choose colors that show your plant or animal's personality or the feeling you want to create. Fill the space!
 4. You can add a background too – where does your plant or animal live?
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Wrap-up and Sharing (5 minutes)

Let's look at your wonderful artwork! Tell me about the flora or fauna you chose to draw and why. What was your favorite part about creating your nature art?

Today we learned that flora means plants and fauna means animals, and artists love using them in their work in many different, creative ways. Great job being an art explorer and creator!