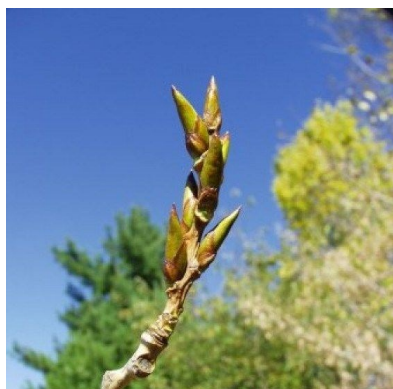


Phenology Friday: Cottonwoods and Wondering Walks

Wondering walks are a great way to notice things you might have missed while out enjoying nature. On wondering walks we share things we notice and things we wonder or want to learn more about. Last week my nephew called and told me he noticed the buds on the trees and started wondering when he would see leaves appear. When my nephew observed the cottonwoods again this week he was surprised he didn't see leaves.

Take a look at what he saw. What do you notice changed in the cottonwood bud this week?



Cottonwood 4/17/20



Cottonwood 4/24/20



Cottonwood 4/28/20

The cottonwood's flowers appeared! Some people are surprised when they see flowers on trees but they are an important part of the cottonwood's life cycle. Try heading out on a wondering walk to search for a cottonwood tree (<https://www.ag.ndsu.edu/trees/handbook/th-3-111.pdf>). If there aren't any in your neighborhood-adopt another plant and keep track of what you notice and wonder as the plant continues to change each week.

Share with us and others what you find!

Tag your photos with @unitedtribestech or add your observations in the comments:

1. What are some things you noticed while out searching for a cottonwood?
2. What are some things you wondered or wanted to learn more about?
3. Did you find other trees or bushes with flowers? How were those flowers different?
4. What was the most interesting thing you observed when searching?
5. Try connecting with others by calling a friend or family member that lives in another place. Tell them what you found on your walk and ask them to share with you what they have noticed in their area.

Any questions or photos you want to share? Suggestions?
Email me! We'd love to hear from you.

Anna Bahnson: abahnson@uttc.edu



UNITED TRIBES
TECHNICAL COLLEGE