



**Check off the treasures you find;
Turn this in at the tent to get *your* treasure!**

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Skunk Cabbage:

This stinky flower is yellow and the smell has been described as being like a skunk, rotten eggs or sulfur. The flower and leaves usually come up through water-they love wet, marshy places!

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Sword Fern:

Ferns are one of the oldest types of plants on earth. This fern is very tough and can live in dry soil. Each stem is called a frond, and they that uncurl as they grow taller-when they are full grown they can be over 3 feet tall! Each fern frond has lots of sword-shaped leaves.



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Conk or Shelf Fungus:



This is a type of fungus that grows on dying trees. Fungus is known as a decomposer, and is very important to the forest. This decomposer grows on dead and dying trees and slowly turns them into soil. Imagine what would happen without decomposers!

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Salmonberry:

This plant may look a little like blackberry. Don't be fooled! It is a native plant in the same family as blackberry, but it has brown, woody stems, pink flowers that turn into orange berries in June, and each leaf has 3 leaflets (smaller leaves clumped together).





False Lily of the Valley:

This is a ground cover plant that grows to about 4 inches tall, but can spread out to cover very large areas. It has heart-shaped leaves, and veins that follow the shape of the leaf. In the spring, small white flower spikes will pop out of the “V” of the heart. It is called False Lily because it is not actually in the lily family!



Mallard Duck:

This bird loves to swim in the open water.

The males have green heads, and the females are a mottled brown color. In the spring, you may see 6 or more little babies swimming after mama duck!

Photo Credit: Seth Bynum



Salal:

This plant is bushy and has very leathery leaves. It likes the shade best and grows slowly. In the summer it has small pinkish flowers



Banana Slug:

This guy is brownish-yellow, and about 4 inches long. He may look like a snail without a shell, but he's not. He is slimy and slithers along the ground, leaving a shiny trail behind him. If you licked him, your tongue would go numb!

Photo Credit: Seth Bynum





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Robin:

This bird can be found all year in the West Hylebos Wetlands. It has a rust-orange belly, and a gray-black head and back. In the spring it eats worms and bugs, and in the rest of the year it likes berries.

Photo credit: Seth Bynum



Licorice Fern:

This fern looks a little like a sword fern. The biggest difference is that this fern only grows on trees (sword ferns grow on the ground). Plants like this are called epiphytes (*epi* means on and *phyte* means plant).

Photo Credit: Seth Bynum



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Frog:

Frogs are amphibians, which means they start life by breathing oxygen in water, and transform into a new stage of life where they can breathe air. Many frogs in the West Hylebos Wetlands actually live in trees!



Fiddlehead:

This is a young fern that is just starting to uncurl. It uncurls as the leaves that are tucked inside the curl grow. Fiddleheads of some species of fern can be eaten, but they need to be cooked first!





Old tires:

Can you spot how old tires are being reused at the West Hylebos Wetlands? Why do you think they used old tires?



Root Cakes:

In wetlands, trees tend to have shallow roots, and may get blown over in storms. Can you see where the roots have been pulled out of the ground by the tree falling over? This is natural in the West Hylebos Wetlands, and then smaller trees can grow up to take the place of the bigger tree that fell over.



Nurse log:

A nurse log is a tree that has died and fallen over. It has begun to decay and other trees have started growing on it. Advantages of a nurse log are: nutrient-rich soil, access to light and disease protection.



Piece of the old boardwalk:

The boardwalk you are walking on was built in 2007, and replaced the old boardwalk that was built by volunteers. There are 2 places where the old boardwalk can be seen. Can you find one of them?

