

JACK-IN-THE-PULPIT



This woodland perennial, *Arisaema triphyllum*, blooms in Wisconsin in late spring. It has a large, cylindrical, hooded flower that resembles a “pulpit,” or podium, with a person, “jack,” inside. Its coloring makes it tough to spot on the forest floor, but you can get to know this plant by making your own model – and then head out to the Kindergarten Woods at the Aldo Leopold Nature Center to look for these intriguing blossoms in the wild!

Make your own Jack-in-the-Pulpit

Materials: Paper and coloring supplies, pipe cleaner, pencil or stick, glue or tape, scissors

Directions:

1. Draw and cut out a green ‘pulpit,’ shown here.
2. Color your ‘pulpit’ – this specialized leaf is called a spathe and is typically striped with greens and red-brown colors.
3. Curl the pointed end (A) of your ‘pulpit’ by wrapping it around a pencil or marker.
4. Wrap the base of the ‘pulpit’ around your ‘Jack’ by gluing or taping a stick, pipe cleaner, or pencil, onto the base of your ‘pulpit’ so that it sticks up through the center – this plant part is called a spadix, and would be covered in tiny flowers.
5. Complete your project by gluing along the bottom and overlapping the ‘B’ and ‘C’ corners with each other.

