

SUNNY SILPHIUM



What do Cup Plants, Compass Plants, and Prairie Rosinweed all have in common? They are all in the genus, *Silphium*, and they are all blooming at the Aldo Leopold Nature Center! Aldo Leopold wrote about *Silphium* in *A Sand County Almanac*.

“Silphium first became a personality to me when I tried to dig one up to move to my farm. It was like digging an oak sapling. After half an hour of hot grimy labor the root was still enlarging, like a great vertical sweet-potato.”

-Aldo Leopold-A Sand County Almanac

MAKE A SILPHIUM FLOWER

Materials: Paper and coloring supplies or yellow, green, and brown construction paper, glue or tape, scissors

Directions:

1. Cut yellow strips about 5-6 inches long and 1 inch wide.
2. Cut a small brown circle, a green stem, and two green leaves.
3. Attach the ends of the yellow strips together to create a petal.
4. Attach the glued/taped end of each petal to the back of the brown circle.
5. Attach two leaves across from each other to the green stem, and attach the stem to the back of all the petals.