WITCHWARD RISING

THE BOTANICAL STUDY

Botanical Observation Journal

BOTANICAL FOUNDATIONS / B-01



Observe / Record / Investigate

KNOW THE PLANT BEFORE YOU USE THE PLANT

Begin with observation

Before we investigate what a plant can be used for, we need to get to know the plant itself. This journal accompanies B-01: Understanding Botany & Herbalism. Choose a familiar, reliably identified living plant. Observe it without harvesting, tasting, or preparing anything.

Your first assignment

Spend ten minutes with one plant. Describe what you can actually see. When you do not know an answer, record a question instead of guessing.

Plant selected:

Date and location (general area):

How I know this plant is identified:

01 / Meet the plant

Begin with what you know, and clearly separate verified details from assumptions.

Common name

Scientific name (if verified)

Plant family (if known)

Source of identification or reference

Growing location and conditions

02 / Look closer

Pay attention to structures, not just overall appearance. Some structures may not be visible today.

Leaves: shape, arrangement, texture, color

Stems: soft, firm, woody, branching pattern

Flowers, fruits, or seeds (if present)

Roots (only if already visible; do not uproot the plant)

03 / Draw or attach a photograph

Make a careful observational sketch, or attach a real photograph of your plant. Label any visible features you recognize.

Features I can identify:

04 / The plant in its environment

Botanical observation includes the conditions surrounding the plant.

Light exposure and time of observation

Soil or growing medium: visible characteristics

Moisture and recent weather (if known)

Insects, neighboring plants, or other interactions

Changes I might observe over time

05 / Questions worth investigating

This is the most important part. Observation gives us evidence; questions give us a direction for learning.

Question 1

Question 2

Where could I look for reliable answers?

What is directly observed, and what is still unverified?

06 / Return to the plant

Repeat your observations another day. What changed? What stayed the same? Did you find answers to your questions?

Return date and time

New observations

What I learned through research (include sources)

One new question

Research & observation notes

Use this page for source titles, dates, plant photographs, additional observations, or notes from B-01.

Know the plant before you use the plant.