

## An Idea for Introducing Botany

Lead the students in the following exercise: Ask the students to close their eyes and imagine themselves sitting in a meadow (or some natural place on campus) First ask them to pay attention to the trees nearby, the bushes beneath the trees, the grasses, then the flowers. "Now picture what it would look like without the trees (pause)...without the bushes (pause)...without the flowers (pause) - you are just sitting on the ground surrounded by grass (pause) ...now imagine what it would be like and feel like if all of the grass were gone and all that was left is barren ground.".....You could continue on from there with a discussion of how the disappearance of each type of plant would affect the animal life that would dwell in the meadow, as well. A wonderful story to follow up this imagination is The Man Who Planted Trees  
*By Jean Giono*