

## Outdoor Scavenger Hunt

In 1605, Samuel de Champlain described the gardens of the Almoouchiquois on the banks of the Saco River. Most of the gardening was done by the women. Maine's indigenous tribes harvested many wild fruits, vegetables and plants for food, medicine, dyes, weaving, tools, and more. Thread was made out of roots; spruce resin was used to seal boat seams so they would float; bedding was filled with moss, cattail down and even balsam fir. They also used moss for "diapers" for small children. These peoples knew the uses of plants, trees and flowers in Maine.



Below is a list of to test your knowledge of the outdoors.

Take a walk with your family on an open trail, behind your house, or on any public land (please, no trespassing!). Bring a pencil and notebook. What do you see? What can you find on this list? Write down your discoveries.

- Cattails found along a pond
- Acorns or Black walnut (Can you find a different type of nut?)
- Wild Raspberries or Strawberries
- Fern
- Birchbark
- Sap from a tree (What tree is it?)
- Leaves from 3 different trees
- Roots from a tree - could they be used to sew a basket?
- Two different types of pine trees
- Moss
- Animal tracks (See below for help in identifying!) or animals



Coyote



Red fox



House cat



Mink



Otter



Dog



Raccoon



Striped skunk



Beaver



Gray squirrel



White-footed mouse



Whitetail Deer



Opossum



Woodchuck



Muskrat



Cottontail rabbit



Crow



Turkey