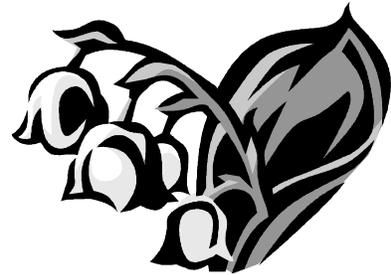


In Flying Colors

Previsit activity:

Jefferson instructed the captains to observe "*the animals of the country generally, & especially those not known in the U.S. the remains and accounts of any which may be deemed rare or extinct*".

There are many ways to record descriptive information about an animal or plant today. But 200 years ago, without the use of a camera, how could the captains bring information back to the President, so that he could identify what they were talking about.



Discuss with the students, that if they were the Captains heading out on an expedition, what would they do to capture information to describe unknown animals and plants. Some of the ways that the captains brought animal and plants description back were:

- ✎ Written Descriptions
- ✎ Pressed Plants
- ✎ Drawings
- ✎ Animal skins, furs, and skulls

Have the students think of other ways to capture information about animals and plants. We will be discussing their ideas during your visit.