

## The Plant Alphabet

**A** is for aster, that blooms in the fall;  
Its colors are dainty and pleasing to all.

**B** is for bluebell, that grows in the wood.  
'Tis a shy, modest flower that bows as it should.

**C** is for clover—the red and the white—  
It has a fine flavor that bees find just right.

**D** is for daisy, dotting the fields.  
A pretty June picture, tho no fragrance it yields.

**E** is for edelweiss, star-shaped and white.  
When it buds in the spring, it's a glorious sight.

**F** is for forget-me-not, tiny and blue.  
Bidding us ever be faithful and true.

**G** is for golden-rod, flower of the prairie.  
It looks like the plume on the cap of a fairy!

**H** is for hollyhock, graceful and strong;  
Brightening the garden wall all summer long.

**I** is for ivy, that glorifies all—  
Clinging to castle and cottage so small.

**J** is for Jack-in-the-pulpit so gay.  
He has his own church in the woods, every day.

**K** is for kudzu, a vine that is known  
To grow fifty feet the first summer it's sown.

**L** is for lily, that floats on the pond;  
Of sleep on its broad leaves, the frog is quite fond.

**M** is for mignonette, shyest of flowers.  
Its fragrance we breathe thru soft summer showers.

**N** is for the narcissus which brings  
Message of springtime and early birds' wings.

**O** is for orchid, flower of the bog.  
'Tis often found springing from half-rotted log.

**P** is for pansy, with dear, saucy face;  
Each garden reserves for this posy a place.

**Q** is for Queen Anne's lace, ever so fine;  
Each blossom unfolds in a dainty design.

**R** is for rose, whether garden or wild.  
Its loveliness charms both the grown-up and child.

**S** is for snapdragon, children's delight.  
It can open its mouth and then shut it up tight.

**T** is for tulip, with colors so gay;  
It will dance in the wind like a lassie at play.

**U** is for umbrella plant from afar,  
Kept on the porch in a crockery jar.

**V** is for violet, loved by us all;  
No flower more welcome, altho it is small.

**W** is for willow, with "pussies" so gray,  
And when the wind blows, the "kittens" will play.  
—M. N. D.

This poem came from a 1920s magazine. There are three letters of the alphabet that are not included in the poem: X, Y and Z.

Can you think of any plants or flowers that start with these letters?

X = \_\_\_\_\_  
Y = \_\_\_\_\_  
Z = \_\_\_\_\_

The poem is written in a style known as "rhyming couplets." This means that each pair of lines rhymes with each other.

Can you write rhyming couplets for the X, Y and Z plants or flowers you listed above?

X is for  
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Y is for  
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Z is for  
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