

Plants are Cool!

Effective Approaches to Engaging Teens in the World of Plants, Science, and the Environment

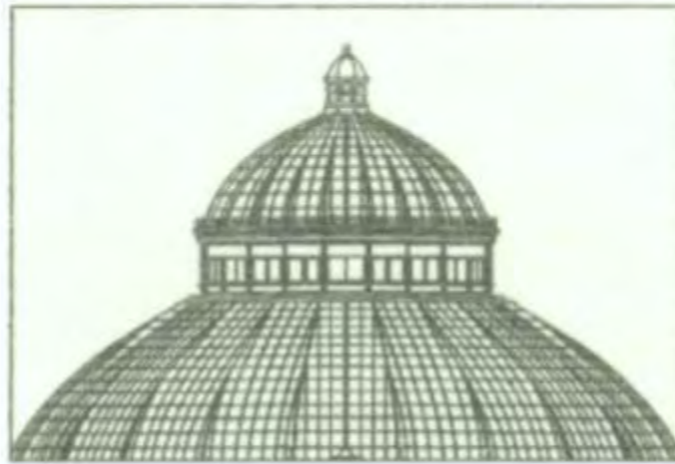


Romanesco Broccoli (relative of the cauliflower)

Presented by

FAIRCHILD TROPICAL BOTANIC GARDEN

Exploring, Explaining and Conserving the World of Tropical Plants



THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

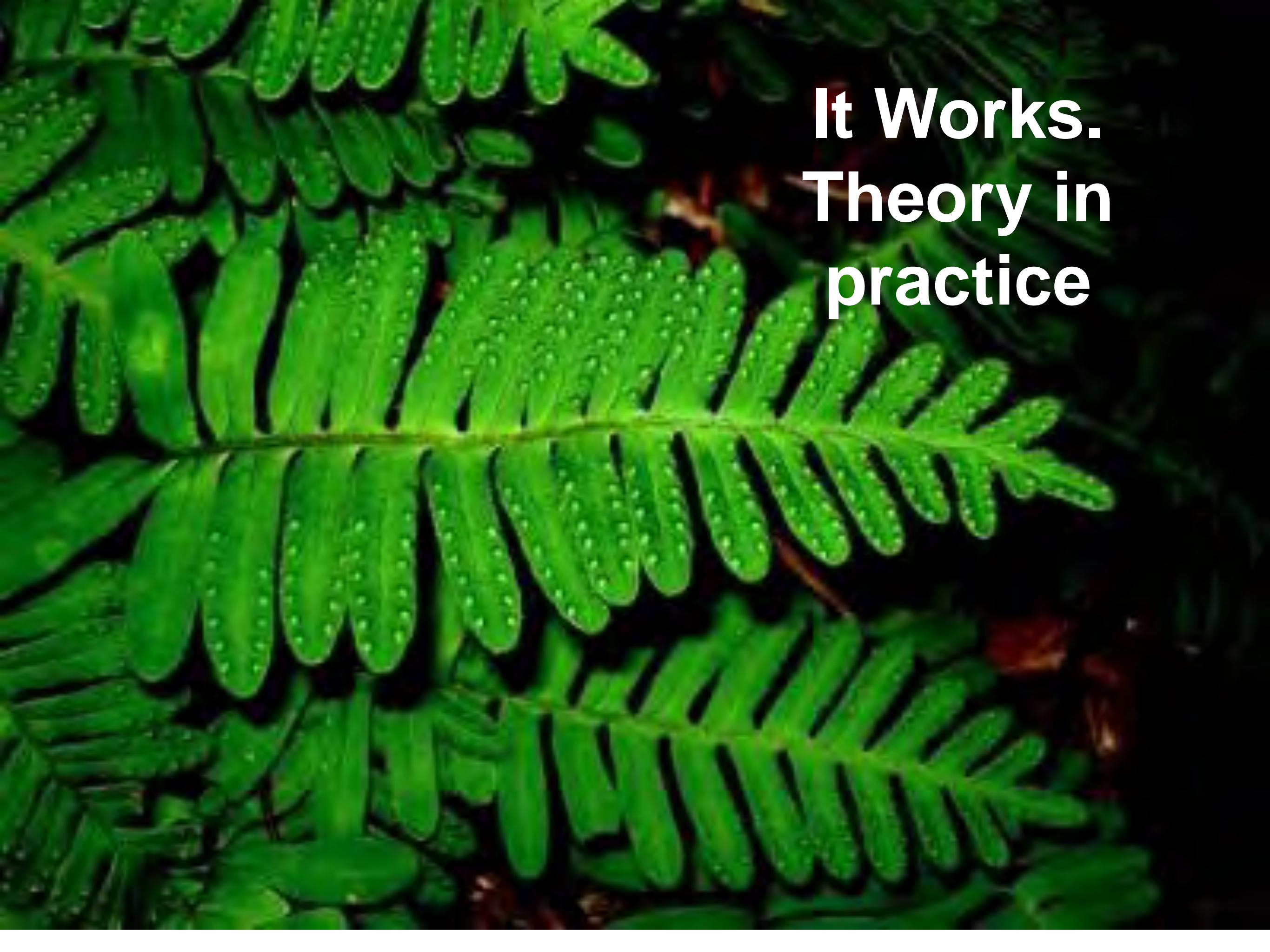
Workshop Goals

- Provide reasons to develop teen programs
- Discuss challenges and ways to overcome them
- Share successes and failures in working with teens

Are you kidding... teens? Challenges and Barriers

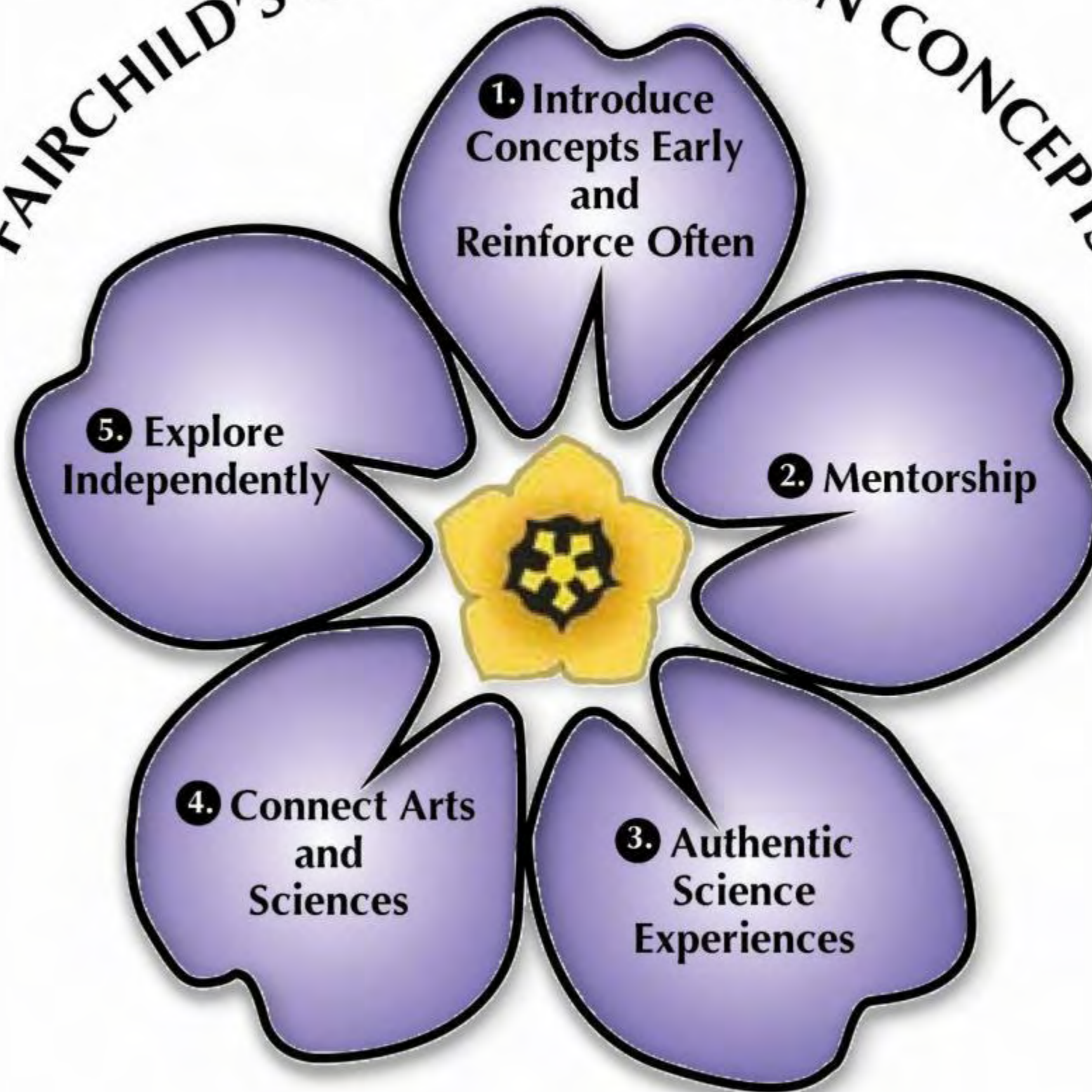


Jack-In-the-pulpit



**It Works.
Theory in
practice**

FAIRCHILD'S CORE EDUCATION CONCEPTS



Do I need to work with teens? Bridging the gap



- Connecting the pipeline
- "Coolifying" Science
- Authentic career exploration
- Simple STEM
- Giving kids the opportunity to ask questions and make mistakes



- Making science FUN!
- Misconception of what a scientist is.





**THE
FAIRCHILD
CHALLENGE**

Changing the way we understand and live with nature

**Using the
Environment
as an
Integrated
Context for
Learning**







NYBG Explainer Program

Environmental Immersion Day



25% of all corn crop will be used for production of biofuels.

Tax on bottled water.



Where do I start?

Cape Sundew



Environmental Debates

Debate Topics

- Outlaw genetically modified food
- People should only eat local organic food