

# PINE ROCKLANDS SCIENCE FAIR CONNECTION

ARCHIMEDEAN MIDDLE CONSERVATORY



**11/2/2020**

If you choose to do this option for the Science Fair, you may work with one partner, and will receive extra credit for Part 2. Additionally, your submission for Part 2 will compete with other submissions for the chance to enter in the Fairchild Challenge competition. You will also receive 10% extra credit to your lowest classwork grade for the grading period.

If you would like to do your own Science Fair project (not related to the Pine Rocklands), you may still complete the story for Part 2 for a chance to enter the Fairchild Challenge. In this case, you may not work with a partner on your own Science Fair topic, but may work with a partner for the short story.

## Part 1: Experiment / Science Fair Board

Follow all steps of the Science Fair to test a problem statement related to the Pine Rocklands in South Florida

Ideas you may use:

- Which seed is the easiest to grow?
- What type of soil is best to grow \_\_\_\_\_?
- What amount of water is best to grow \_\_\_\_\_?
- Does \_\_\_\_\_ grow better if limestone is present under the soil?

Examples of plants in the Pine Rocklands:

- Morningglory
- Tickseed
- Beautyberry
- Locust Berry
- White IndigoBerry

You may use a problem statement from above, or you may use your own problem statement that is related to the Pine Rocklands

## Part 2: Short Story

Students will write a short story about their experience in South Florida that features the pine rockland ecosystem. Stories must be based on true experiences, and must be 3 pages or less (double-spaced, size 12 font).

Ideas:

- Write a story about experiences you have had with an animal that lives in the Pine Rocklands
- Write a story about a time you visited a Pine Rockland (see locations below)
- Write a story about your experience growing plants to help preserve the Pine Rocklands

Resources:

<https://fairchildgarden.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/PR-Factsheet-2019.pdf>

[https://fairchildgarden.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Pine\\_Rockland\\_Final\\_2010.pdf](https://fairchildgarden.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Pine_Rockland_Final_2010.pdf)

### Visit a pine rockland!

Are you wondering which pine rocklands are open for a visit? Here are our top recommendations:

Preserves that are FREE to visit, have facilities and at least some portions that are ADA accessible.

[Larry & Penny Thompson Park](#)  
[Ron Ehman Park](#)  
[AD Barnes Park](#)

Preserves are FREE to visit but lack facilities, staff, ADA trails, and/or parking.

[Florida City EEL preserve](#)  
[Goulds EEL preserve](#)  
[Pineshore EEL preserve](#)  
[Navy Wells EEL preserve](#)  
[Rockdale EEL preserve](#)

Preserves with admission fees; these have staff, facilities, and parking.

[The Deering Estate](#) (see the pineland on guided nature tour).  
[Everglades National Park](#)

### Some Animals in the Pine Rocklands:

"State listed animals occurring in pine rocklands include Big Pine Key ringneck snake (*Diadophis punctatus acricus*), red rat snake (*Elaphe guttata guttata*), and gopher tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*). Rare animals known from this community include Florida atala butterfly (*Eumaus atala*), Florida leafwing butterfly (*Anaea troglodyta floridalis*), and rim rock crowned snake (*Tantilla oolitica*)."

<[https://www.fws.gov/southeastfire/documents/MSRP\\_PineRocklands.pdf](https://www.fws.gov/southeastfire/documents/MSRP_PineRocklands.pdf)>