



K-8 Draw it Wild

Besides trees, there are many plants in the forests and prairies at Devils Tower National Monument. One way to enjoy flowers and plants without picking them, is to draw them. This way, you can bring home a memory, and everyone else who visits can enjoy the same piece of nature you found.

Keys for Identifying and Drawing Wildflowers

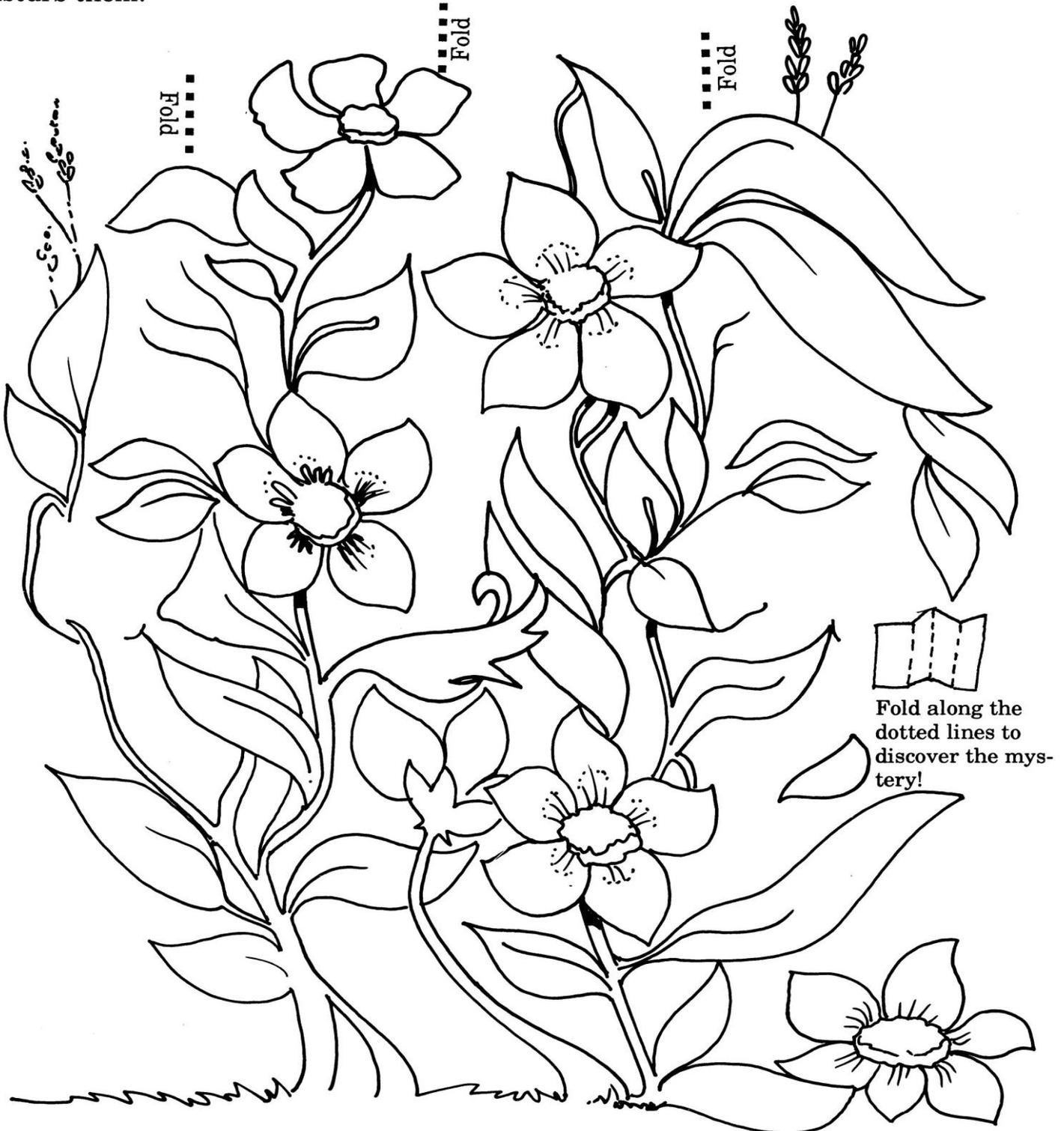
- ❖ Look at the petal and leaf shapes
- ❖ Count the number of petals, leaves and blooms
- ❖ Write down the colors of the blossoms and leaves
- ❖ Note the height of the plant
- ❖ Check where the plant is growing (In the sun? In the shade?)

Draw your wildflower here



Wildflowers are plentiful at Devils Tower National Monument. Carpets of color are displayed for all to enjoy! Yellow (Arrowleaf Balsam root), white (Yarrow), blue (Larkspur), purple (Violet), red, pink, rose (Milkweed), and orange flowers (Scarlet Globe Mallow) can be found. Many varieties of each color are abundant.

See if you can discover the flowers of Devils Tower, but remember not to pick or listurb them!





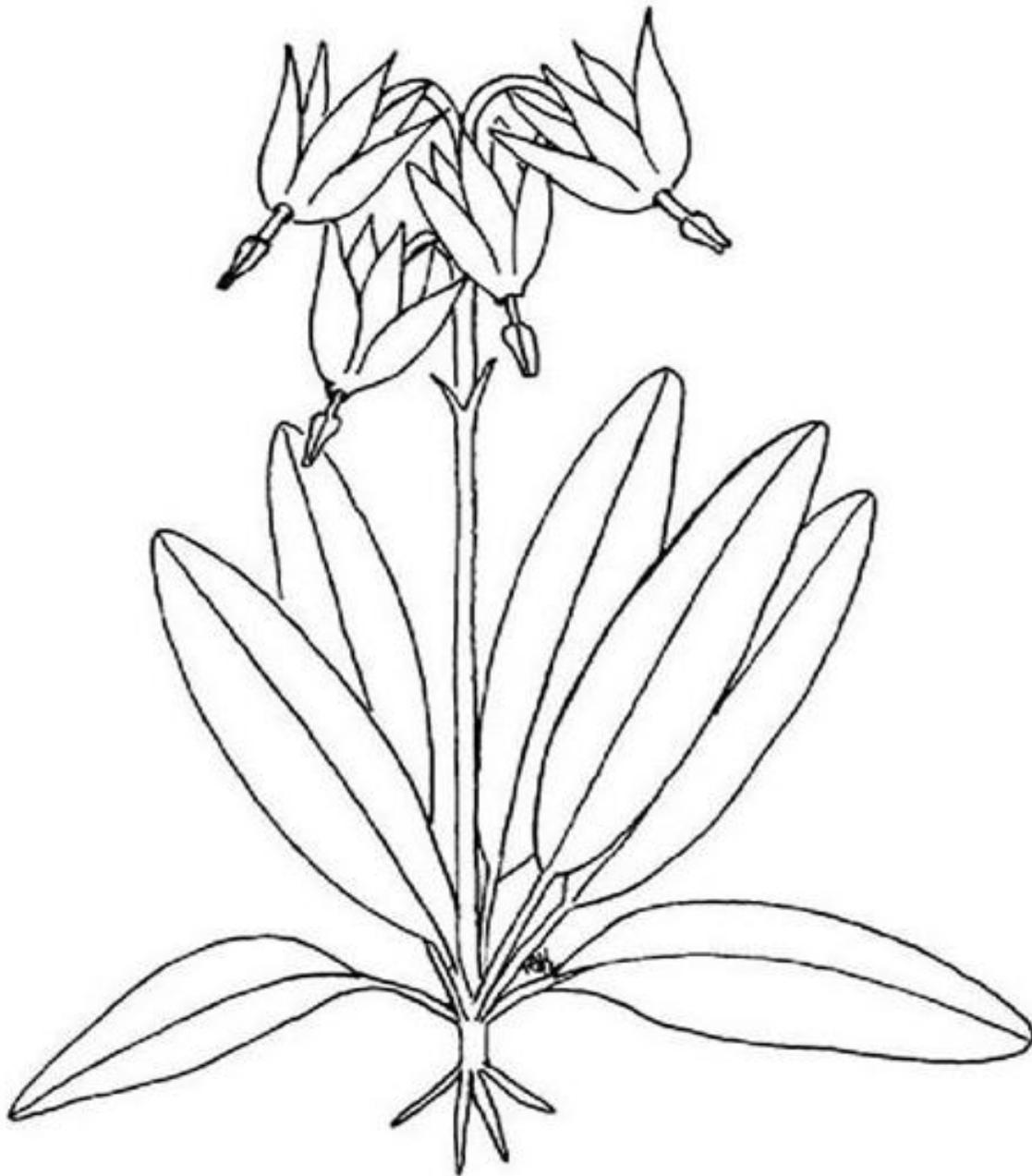
The following pages include some color pages of common flowers found around the Tower.



Choke cherry

Padus virginiana the Rose Family

These are tall shrubs, common along streams and roads in the 7000-9000 feet elevation zone. The flowers are white and fragrant and borne in an arrangement called a raceme. The fruit is similar to a cherry in that fleshy covering surrounds a single seed. When eaten fresh, this sour fruit can produce a puckering of the mouth and throat, thus it was commonly called “Choke” cherry.



Shooting Star

Dodecatheon pulchellum Primulaceae the Primrose Family

These plants have attractive rose-pink flowers arranged in drooping clusters on a leafless flowering stalk. The common name actually describes the flowers: bent back petals with fused yellow anthers forming a beak. The best place to find them are along streams and other wet places.



Wood's Rose

Rosa woodsii the Rose Family

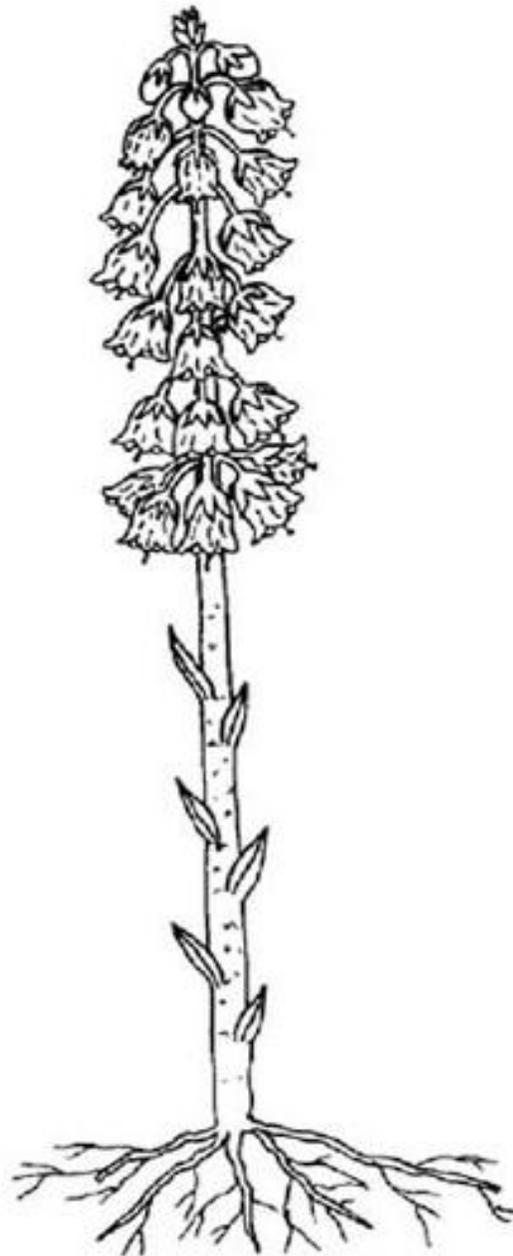
This wild rose blooms in early summer with delightfully fragrant, showy, pink blossoms that resemble garden roses. These shrubs have spiny stems and pinnately compound leaves. The fruits are often called “hips” and are a good winter food for wildlife. They contain high levels of vitamin C, and are often made into jelly or dried for tea.



Heart-leaved Arnica

Arnica cordifolia the Sunflower Family

This relative of the sunflower is common in some areas from the foothills to the alpine. It forms colonies that spread by underground stems, which send up clusters of leaves and flowering stems.



Pinedrops

Pterospora andromedea the Pinesap Family

These plants are common in pine needle duff in forests. The plants are fleshy, with small, reduced leaves. The stems are reddish brown rather than the common green color. They lack chlorophyll and are parasitic on the roots of the pine trees.