

## Learn at Home: Venus Flytrap

## Supplies Needed:

- Paper
- Scissors
- Glue
- Markers, Crayons, or Colored Pencils

## Instructions:

- Print out the template on the following page and cut out all shapes. If you don't have a printer, draw one large circle, one slightly smaller circle and some small triangles. Then cut out all shapes.
- Color the large circle and the triangles green.
  Color the small circle red. Note, you will want to color both sides of the large circle and the triangles.
- 3. Glue the small red circle to the center of the green circle. Glue the triangles around the edge.
- 4. Fold your creation in half to create your Venus flytrap! If you'd like, you can even draw some little bugs stuck inside the trap!

## Learn a little something:

Venus flytraps, *Dionaea muscipula*, are a type of carnivorous plant. Despite what the movies show us, Venus flytraps are very small plants that only eat tiny insects. They have specialized clam-shaped leaves that they use to catch their food. Once an insect lands inside the leaf, it touches tiny trigger hairs. These hairs send a signal to the plant that tells it to snap shut. Did you know Venus flytrap can close their leaves in less than one second! The long stiff hairs, called cilia, along the edges of the leaves help to seal the trap shut so nothing can get out.





