

Pelican Pete's Backyard Adventures™

Nature Discoveries and Outdoor Fun

Plant
Presents



PELICAN PETE

DID YOU KNOW?

Yaupon holly (*Ilex vomitoria*) is a plant with many presents.

The leaves contain caffeine and may be used to make an energizing, antioxidant tea. The beautiful red berries are toxic to humans; however, they feed a variety of wildlife including 28 species of birds, black bear, fox, raccoon, skunk, and armadillo. Deer and other herbivores browse on the leaves, and thickets of this small tree or shrub provide shelter for many animals.

GET OUTDOORS!

Look at the plants in your yard and neighborhood. Do you see plants with berries? What color are they? Do they feed wildlife? How do you know?

Play Plant Parade! Choose one player to be Leader, holding a stick. Remaining players follow Leader, who runs or marches and points to a tree, plant, or shrub with the stick. Players must name the plant or make up a name based on what it looks like. Take turns being Leader.

*With leaves evergreen and berries red,
And sheltering branches overhead,
For the birds, mammals, and insects too,
I have gifts for all—including you!*

