

Quick Guide for Instructors of Undergraduates

Join the national Project BudBurst network of scientists, students, and educators monitoring plants as the seasons change, and help your students learn science by doing science!



Bring science to life: Project BudBurst in your courses

Undergraduate students participate in courses that help them develop the skills they need to succeed in the workplace and academia. Plant phenology touches upon many subject areas: biology, environmental science, horticulture, art, and more. Project BudBurst provides opportunities for students to practice observation, journaling, sketching, recording qualitative and quantitative data, entering and analyzing data, and writing reports from data they have collected. Project BudBurst can be a springboard for students to plan and conduct their own scientific investigations. Working with real data, students have the opportunity to directly experience the nature of science and participate in the scientific process fully while becoming part of a larger community of practice.

Getting Started

Everything you need to participate in Project BudBurst can be found online (budburst.org).

Online resources available on the Undergraduate Educator page include:

- Implementation Guide
- Classroom Registration Guide
- Profiles of Instructors who use Project BudBurst with their students

Go online to budburst.org/educators and get started today!

Four easy steps to participate:

1 Think about Sites and Plants

Consider where to have students make observations (i.e., site location), which plant(s) are best suited for students' study, and how to arrange students (i.e., work together as a class, in groups, or individually).

2 Create Accounts

By setting up their own accounts, students have access to their own "My BudBurst" space where they can 1) manage their site(s) and the plants they plan to observe, 2) report their observations, and 3) view/download their submitted data.

3 Make Observations

The central element of the program involves student observation of the timing of plant phenophases. Two protocols, Single Report and Regular Report, allow you to customize Project BudBurst to fit the needs of your courses and students.

4 Report and Explore the Data

After students have made observations of their plant, they can enter their data into the Project BudBurst website. Once data are entered, they are immediately accessible from the "My BudBurst" space.