



@ HOME SCIENCE DISCOVERY MISSIONS – Mushrooms studying



What Do We Need?

- A basket for picking the mushrooms
- A knife (to cut the mushroom's feet (don't pull them!)
- A Forest (preferably mixed)




PROTOCOL

It's always good to select a nice forest, with a good tree cover. There is no magical recipe to find a good place, just ask local people.

The weather : the mushroom needs heat and humidity for growing up. Wait for a good rain session, and wait a few days after, to let the mushrooms grow, and to let the floor dry a bit.

Remember to ask the forest owner the authorization if it is a private one!

Once you are in the forest, the mushrooms are typically into wet and darker spots. Avoid areas with direct sunlight, and check areas where the sun doesn't directly hit the ground. 

Ok, you found some mushrooms.

Make sure you KNOW them before taking them. Inedible mushrooms are often near the edible ones. If you are not sure if the mushroom is edible or not, you should just leave it (I usually do so)

In my case, I only take the "Boletus". Its a typically edible Lithuanian mushroom. Make sure you have a Bolete, an upright mushroom with a stem and with sponge like pores instead of gills under the cap and growing in soil.

YOUR MISSION REPORT

- ***Boletus*** is a genus of mushroom-producing fungi, comprising over 100 species. The genus *Boletus* was originally broadly defined and described by Carl Linnaeus in 1753, essentially containing all fungi with hymenial pores instead of gills. Since then, other genera have been defined gradually, such as *Tylopilus* by Petter Adolf Karsten in 1881, and old names such as *Leccinum* have been resurrected or redefined. Some mushrooms listed in older books as members of the genus have now been placed in separate genera. These include such as *Boletus scaber*, now *Leccinum scabrum*, *Tylopilus felleus*, *Chalciporus piperatus* and *Suillus luteus*. Most boletes have been found to be ectomycorrhizal fungi, which mean that they form a mutualistic relationship with the roots system of certain kinds of plants. More recently, *Boletus* has been found to be massively polyphyletic, with only a small percentage of the over 300 species that have been assigned to *Boletus* actually belonging there and necessitating the description and resurrection of many more genera.

The name is derived from the Latin term *bōlētus* 'mushroom' from the Ancient Greek βωλίτης, *bōlitēs*, ultimately from βῶλος, *bōlos* 'lump' or 'clod'. However, the βωλίτης, of Galen is thought to have been the much prized *Amanita caesarea*.



Did you know? The fruit body has a large brown cap which on occasion can reach 35 cm in diameter and 3 kg) in weight.

Ernestas

Country **Lithuania**

Grade **10th**













Student feedback - How did you like this mission?



☐ not at all

☐ not much

☐ a bit

☐ liked it

☐ liked it a lot

☒ liked it best

Family feedback - How did you like this mission?



☐ not at all

☐ not much

☐ a bit

☐ liked it

☐ liked it a lot

☒ liked it best

Did you use the 'Learn more!' resources?

☒ Yes

☐ No

What was good/bad about this mission? **This mission was extremely interesting as I combined my adorable free time activity with the science- learning project at school. At last I had the possibility not only to do my favourite free time activity but also do a little research and give hints to others who are only the beginners, I also had a chance to use my knowledge and skills practically in the forest and even teaching my parents some hints of how to find mushrooms.**