

Many other plants have been named after animals. Look for them in plant guide books or when you visit places where plants are sold. You might want to start your own petting zoo at home!

**Leopard's Bane**

**Cattails**

**Buffalo Grass**

**Butterfly Bush**

**Hens and Chicks**

**Goldfish Plant**

**Bear's Breeches**

**Pussy Toes**

**Bunny Tails**

**Fleabane**

**Pussy Willow**

**Bird's Foot Trefoil**

**Dogtooth Violet**

**Elephant Ear**

**Goatsbeard**

**Turtlehead**

**Gooseberry**

**Skunk Cabbage**

**Catnip**

**Cowslip**

**Snake Weed**

**Bugbane**

**Toad Lily**

**Spider Flower**

**Ostrich Fern**

**Chameleon Plant**

**False Dragonhead**

**Monkey Flower**

**Kangaroo Paw**

**Gooseneck Loosestrife**

**Cardinal Climber**

**Horsetail**

**Lion's Ear**

**Tiger Lily**

**Spiderwort**

**Foxtail Grass**



For more information about gardening and youth activities related to horticulture, visit these Web sites.

ISU Extension publications  
<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/pubs>

ISU Horticulture  
<http://www.hort.iastate.edu>

ISU Youth and 4-H programs  
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**And justice for all**

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**REIMAN  
GARDENS**  
IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY



# Plant Zoo



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
University Extension

Many plants have been named after animals. Sometimes the plants have features that look like an animal. For example, the plant called lamb's ear has very soft, fuzzy leaves that feel like a lamb's ear. Other plant names, like dogwood, make no sense at all. Everyone knows that dogs don't have wood!

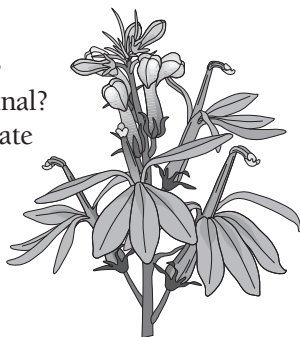
Reiman Gardens and many other public gardens have several such plant pets. Can you find the ones listed below? Check off the ones that you find. Remember not to pick the flowers or leaves of the plants so that others can find them, too.

**Bee Balm**—Bees enjoy the flowers of this plant and so can you! Look for bright red, pink, or purple flowers but watch out for the bees.

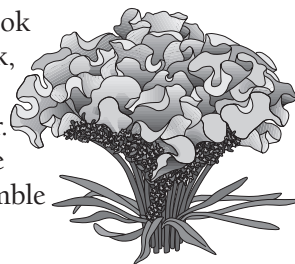


**Butterfly Weed**—Let the butterflies guide you to this plant's bright orange flowers in the summer.

**Cardinal Flower**—What color is a cardinal? The flowers on this late summer blooming plant are often that same color.



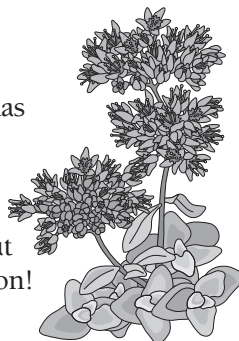
**Cockscomb**—Look for bright red, pink, yellow, or orange flowers in summer. The flowers can be “feathery” or resemble a rooster’s comb.



**Cranesbill**—Look low; this plant hugs the ground. The beak-like fruit looks like a crane’s bill. Have you ever seen a crane?

**Dogwood**—These woody plants come in almost as many varieties as dog breeds. One type is a shrub that has red twigs in winter.

**Dragon’s Blood Sedum**—This plant has smooth “fleshy” leaves that turn red. Look for this pool of dark red close to the ground, but watch out for the dragon!



**Harebells**—In early summer, the blue or white flowers look like bells. But why would a rabbit carry bells?

**Lamb’s Ear**—Look for the soft, velvety, gray leaves. This plant will be close to the ground. Pet the leaves to see how soft they are.

**Pig Squeak**—The leaves on this plant are larger than your hand! Rub the leaves the right way to hear a “pig-squeak.”

**Snake Plant**—This green snake likes to be indoors when it is cold, but it doesn't mind spending the summer outside in a container.

**Tickseed**—Don't worry, this plant doesn't have ticks. But it does have plenty of tiny yellow flowers.

**Wormwood**—Worms don't bother this silvery plant with its mound of fine leaves.

**Zebra Grass**—What does a zebra have that makes it different than other animals? This tall grass has them in yellow.

