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That Missing Leaf

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That missing leaf

by Joan Mertens

Foods and Nutrition Junior

EVEN THOUGH you've finished decorating your room, it still may not look just right. Maybe it's that missing leaf that can give it life—the plant to bring enjoyment to you all through the year.

At home you used figurines, lamps and plants as little space fillers. They added variety to your room; they linked your general theme and color scheme together. But here at school you can't expect your mother's expensive knick-knacks, so you'll have to collect suitable accessories in the form of colorful souvenirs for your bulletin board and green, leafy plants to brighten up your room.

Plants Add Variety

The florists in campustown and downtown Ames and the college greenhouse offer a host of plant varieties for your pleasure. If you tell them where you want to put the plant—on the dresser, the window sill, or down in the corner, the florist will help you decide what plant will suit your needs.

You'll probably want a small one if it's to go on the window sill, maybe an ivy or philadendron. If your plant will be on the desk or dresser, you may want a slightly larger one, a geranium or even a hydrangea. But if one corner in your room looks bare, you can buy a large plant and not only fill up the space, but beautify it as well.

Greenery Needs Care

It doesn't take a special knack to make your greenery stay fresh and alive either. It has been said that house plants are like people in many ways. They require water and food at regular intervals. They need sufficient light, fresh air and humidity. They like to be clean and want a reasonable amount of loving care and attention. So just remember the things you need for physical comfort and let your plant have them, too.

When you add that green touch, your room will bloom with a new personality. It's now a home, and you'll enjoy coming home to see your plants make the room live for you.



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