



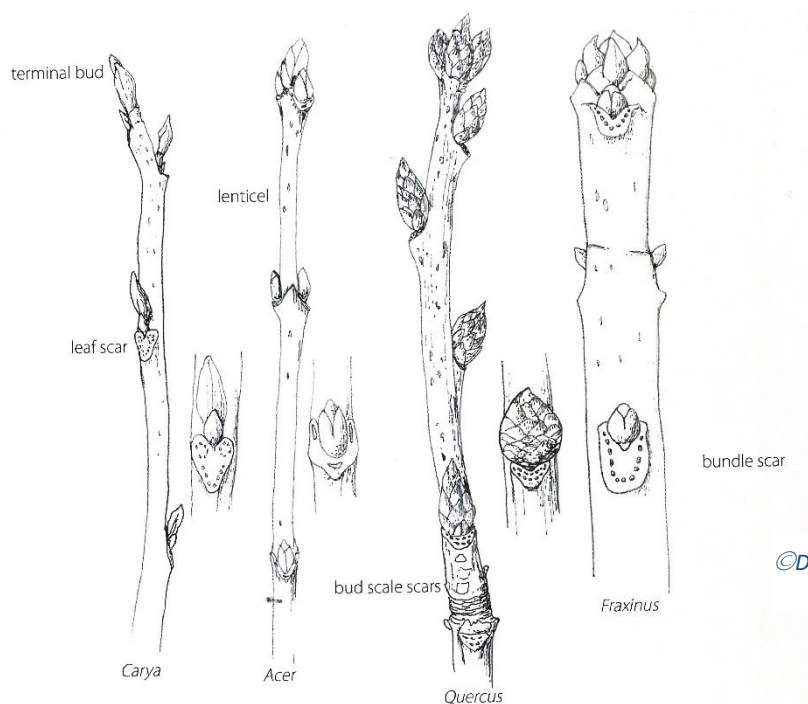
Branches in Winter

It is officially winter and also officially a new year. Time to start observing what is going on in our garden, in our neighborhood, on our walk. Choose a plant or two or three to follow through the seasons or choose some different branches and compare their growth patterns, scars, color etc.

Get out your magnifying glass:

Here are some things to look for (courtesy of Dick Rauh whose twigs these are.)

- ❖ Delicacy or coarseness
- ❖ The look of the terminal bud and scales.
- ❖ Position of the lateral buds (alternate or opposite?)
- ❖ Shape and pattern of the bundle scars.
- ❖ Look for an irregular series of lines that circle the twig, marking a year's growth.
- ❖ When adding color, refer back to our mixes for subtle browns and grays- try complements or adding color to browns.



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"Creativity is intelligence having fun." ... Albert Einstein