FOR KIDS

Your Garden Fun Finder

- Wake up your senses.
- Sprout some curiosity.
- Meet new leafy friends.

www.arboretum.umn.edu

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Hey Kids...

Arboretum plants are **PUZZLED**.

It’s the “plant place” — yet some people don’t notice them. People and plants belong together! Can you show them your **GREEN CURIOSITY**?
Enjoy 8 Activities in the Arboretum Gardens.
Check the map for ideas on where to go, but you can try these anywhere — even at home or the park. Let your own interests guide you. Have fun!

1. Beauty-go-round
2. Tree Watchers
3. Nose Time
4. Leaf Pretender
5. Garden Shapes
6. Sound Off
7. Animal Evidence
8. One More

Thank you for keeping this a beautiful place.

Please keep on walks, trails, and grass. Avoid crushing plants and soil.

Leave everything in place. Collecting and picking not permitted.

Show respect with regular voices. Screaming disturbs others, including wildlife.

Safety first. No wading or climbing trees, rocks or walls.
How much beauty can you find?

1. First, just look.
   Stand in one spot.
   Turn around very s-l-o-w-l-y.
   Look carefully each way. Check out what’s close by, and what’s far away. What view is most beautiful to YOU?

2. Share it with friends.
   Show your favorite to a friend or two. Can they guess why you chose it? You can give a clue — just not too easy!

TRY IT HERE : Terrace Garden, Waterfall Overlook
Introduce yourself to some trees.

1. Check out the choices.
   Over 200 kinds of trees live here.
   Do you see how each one grows?
   They may be tall or small, bendy or stiff, narrow or wide.

TRY IT HERE: Dwarf Conifers, Ordway Shelter

2. Now, pretend.
   Which one would you most like to take home with you? Why?
   Think about what you want to do with your new tree
   “best friend.”
Is your nose ready for a workout?

1. Do your warm-ups.
   Take a deep breath — fresh air! Lean down and sniff the soil.

2. SPRING
   Smell daffodils, crabapples, lilacs and more. Their fragrances can fill the air, even before you see them.

   TRY IT HERE:
   Home Demo Gardens, Woodland Azaleas

3. SUMMER & FALL
   Check every color of rose you can find. Try the herbs, they hold scented oils in their leaves.

   TRY IT HERE:
   Kitchen Herb Garden, Rose Walk
Take time to zoom in on leaves.

1. Practice first.
   Find three different plants.
   Touch each one gently. See how each plant has its own type of leaf? Even on the same plant, leaves are like snowflakes. No two are exactly the same.

2. Now use your imagination.
   What could be a blanket for a bug? For a hungry caterpillar, what’s tender to munch? If you were tiny, which leaf would you use? For what?

TRY IT HERE: Annual Garden, Perennial Garden
1. Stroll through the gardens. Gardeners are artists who like to dig. They give each garden its own look. Compare garden sizes, shapes and colors. What differences can you find?

2. Take a vote. Some gardens curve and swerve. Others have straight lines, or even circles. What garden shape do you like best? Why?

Garden Shapes

Stand at a garden’s entry to see its shape.

Draw your perfect garden — with YOU in it!
Give your ears their own discovery time.

1. Find a place to sit.
   Get ready to TURN OFF your voice, to hear all the other sounds.

2. Shhh...
   Can you just listen...
   for two quiet minutes?

TRY IT HERE: Iris Pond, Hosta Glade

   Did you discover anything that no one else did? Can you say any words that echo the sounds you heard?
Animal Evidence

Fox, heron, turtle, toad, beetle, bee — so many live here!

1. What might you find?
   Share ideas. Plants make things “homey” for animals. They provide places to nest and hide, and things to eat.

   **TRY IT HERE:**
   Bog Walk on Green Heron Trail,
   Wood Duck Trail

2. Search for clues.
   Hungry creatures leave teeth marks.
   Any chewed nuts? Chomped leaves?
   Lean back and sky watch. Spot a nest?
   Wings flying by? Roll over for an ant’s view. Any tiny holes or tunnels?
Have more time? Choose a bonus!

**Roll down a hill.**
Try the hills below the Rose Garden and Ordway Shelter.

**Try cloud-watching.**
What shapes do you see? A ship, a fountain, a river, a horse?

**Count the koi.**
Check the ponds in the Japanese Garden and Perennial Garden.

**Take some photos.**
Go back and find your favorite places to remember.
Find More Fun for Kids

**Green Fun for the Young**
Our magical, growing world awaits, with adventures for preschoolers and their adults.

**Summer Camps for K–Grade 8**
Get curious and meet new friends, come grow, cook, taste, build, create!

**Weekend Family Fun — It’s FREE**
Green time together, new theme monthly, every Saturday and Sunday, 12–4pm.

**Fieldtrips & Plantmobile**
Discover active, hands-on learning for all, at the Arboretum or at your school.

Minnesota Landscape Arboretum
3675 Arboretum Drive, Chaska, MN 55318-9613
Visit www.arboretum.umn.edu/selfguidedforkids.aspx for more information, to print a copy or download this brochure to your mobile device.

www.arboretum.umn.edu