



Self-Guided Tour Packet Third Grade Teacher's Guide

Welcome to Lauritzen Gardens!

We are providing this guide to assist you and your students in learning about nature and the various gardens within our 100-acre property. This guide includes suggested stops and activities in addition to general garden information.

Please note that you will likely not be able to visit all areas of the Garden during your visit.



Scan or click here
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UlwypYakqx4> for a brief introduction to Lauritzen Gardens.

GARDEN LOCATIONS

- | | | | |
|----|--|----|---|
| 1 | Dr. C.C. and Mabel L. Criss Memorial Foundation Parking Garden | 12 | Model Railroad Garden |
| 2 | Arrival Garden | 13 | Robert H. Storz Family Rose Garden |
| 3 | Marjorie K. Daugherty Conservatory | 14 | Children's Garden |
| 4 | Woodland Trail | 15 | Herb Garden |
| 5 | Festival Garden | 16 | Founders' Garden |
| 6 | Woodland Waterfall | 17 | Sunru Castle Gate and Mt. Fuji Replica |
| 7 | Hitchcock-Koontz Victorian Garden | 18 | David and Pamela Gross Family Spring Flowering Walk |
| 8 | English Perennial Border | 19 | Song of the Lark Meadow |
| 9 | Tree Peony Garden | 20 | Garden of Memories |
| 10 | Garden in the Glen | 21 | Kenrick Park |
| 11 | Arboretum and Oberman Bird Sanctuary | | |

Lauritzen Gardens offers a 100-acre site, 20 garden spaces and a visitor and education center that includes a gift shop, horticulture library, classrooms, 5,000-square-foot floral display hall and rental facilities.

GARDEN ETIQUETTE

For the enjoyment of others and the protection of the gardens, we thank you for following these simple guidelines:

- View and smell the flowers, fruits, leaves and seeds, but please leave them for others to enjoy.
- Marvel at the trees, walls, sculptures and fountains, but please do not climb on them.
- Only food purchased from Lauritzen Gardens' cafe may be eaten in the designated areas. Food is not allowed to be eaten on the garden grounds.
- With the exception of service dogs, animals are prohibited.
- Lauritzen Gardens is not a park. No jogging or running. Recreational items such as frisbees, kites, bicycles, sleds, skateboards, scooters and roller blades are not allowed in the visitor and education center or anywhere within the garden.
- Smoking is not permitted in any building.



KEY

- PARKING
- CAFE (open 10 AM to 2 PM daily)
- RESTROOMS
- RESTROOMS (Seasonal)
- DRINKING FOUNTAIN
- ROADS

CONTACT US

(402) 346-4002

DONATIONS AND TRIBUTES | EXT. 224
 EDUCATION | EXT. 253 OR 212
 GENERAL INFORMATION | EXT. 201
 MEMBERSHIP | EXT. 214
 RENTAL FACILITIES | EXT. 261
 VOLUNTEERING | EXT. 263

www.lauritzengardens.org

You will enter the main Gardens through the Visitor and Education Center. It is recommended that you make brief stops at points that interest your group, but proceed to one of the highlighted gardens for your first activity.

If you are visiting with multiple groups, please consider beginning your tour farther out in the Gardens to avoid congestion.

Self-guided tours do not include visiting the Conservatory, the Woodland Trail or the Visitor and Education Center

Suggested Garden Locations and Items of Interest

Woodland Waterfall (#6)

- ❖ Notice the animal burrows in the Loess Hill soil to the left of the pathway just prior to the waterfall
- ❖ Take the opportunity to identify the effects of erosion above the waterfall and across the road and down the hill.
- ❖ Note living and non-living things in this location and the characteristics of each
 - Living: Trees, plants, any animals that may be present
 - Non-Living: 'New Friends' statue, water, rocks, bench



Victorian Garden (#7)

- ❖ Formal garden designed with lots of textures and shapes
- ❖ Middle rectangular beds are planted with annuals (plants that live only one year)
- ❖ Perimeter beds are perennial plants (plants that return year after year)
- ❖ Statues and architectural elements in this garden were salvaged from historical buildings in Omaha and Council Bluffs and demonstrate how we "re-use" and "recycle" in our garden



State Standard References and Notes

NE: SC 5.3.1,
SC 5.4.2.a, SC 5.4.4

To view a video about erosion scan here:



Erosion and Soil

To view a video about annual and perennial flowers scan here:

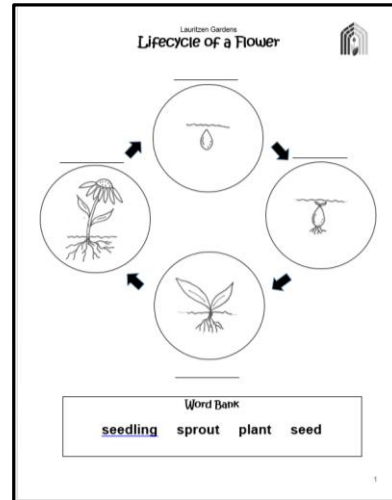


Annual and Perennial Flowers

Victorian Garden (#7) (continued)

Life Cycle of a Flower Activity in Student Handout

Discuss the characteristics of different flowers and plants in the Victorian Garden and the difference between annual and perennial plants. Have students complete the activity on page 1 of the Student Handout.



[NE: 5.3.2](#)
[IA: 3-LS1-1](#)

Arboretum (#11)

- ❖ 'Arboretum' means garden for trees
- ❖ Bronze sculpture of Sand Hill crane; Sandhill cranes are migratory birds that gather along Nebraska's Platte River every spring to rest before traveling north to Canada
- ❖ The Arboretum also serves as a bird sanctuary; look for [cardinals](#), [chickadees](#), [robins](#), and [goldfinches](#).
- ❖ Continue following the path to the left to discover the Marsh Pond.



[NE: SC 5.3.3](#)
[IA: 3-LS4-4](#)



Cardinal Video and Song



Robin Video and Song



Goldfinch Video and Song

Arboretum (#11) (continued)

Habitat Comparison Activity in Student Handout

After visiting the Arboretum Marsh, find a spot on the pathway where students are able to look out into the Arboretum garden to observe and listen to wildlife. Discuss the various habitats in the Arboretum and have students complete the activity on page 2 of the Student Handout.

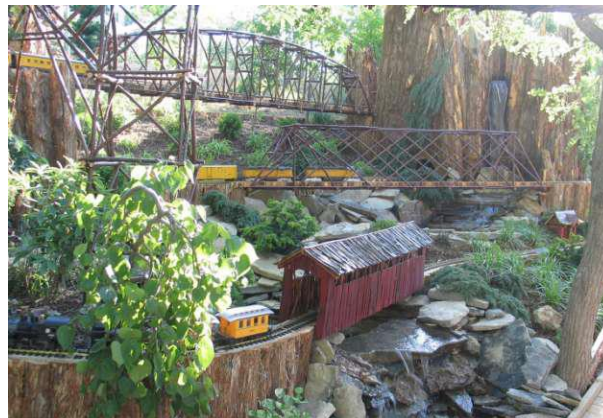
The handout is titled "Habitats in the Arboretum" and includes a small logo for "Lauritzen Gardens". It has two columns: "Marsh" and "Forest". Each column has a small photograph and a section titled "What do you see?" with five horizontal lines for writing. Below these columns are two larger sections: "Write about one thing that is the same in the marsh and the forest habitats." and "Write about one thing that is different.", each with five horizontal lines. A small page number "2" is visible in the bottom right corner.

To learn more about life in a marsh scan here:



Model Railroad Garden (#12)

- ❖ Showcases several G-scale model trains
- ❖ Buildings are replicas of historically and culturally significant Omaha buildings
- ❖ Buildings, bridges and trestles are constructed using all natural materials (seedpods, twigs, pine cones, bark, bamboo, etc.)



Model trains and building replicas are on display May – October.

Song of the Lark Meadow (#19)

- ❖ Meadow is filled with wildflowers and native Nebraska flowers and grasses (black-eyed Susan, plains coreopsis, prairie grasses, dwarf re plains coreopsis, lemon mint, red corn poppy, yarrow and blanket flower)



To learn more about meadows, scan here:



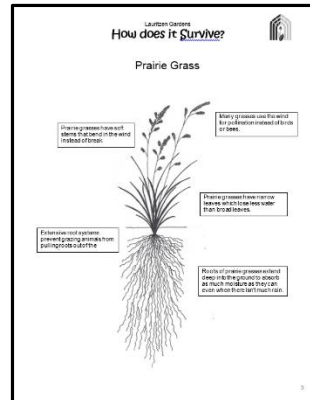
Song of the Lark Meadow (#19) cont.

[NE: 5.3.4](#)
[IA: 3-LS4-4](#)

- ❖ Named after the short story of the same name by Nebraska author Willa Cather
- ❖ Bronze sculpture, “Startled” depicts a buck that is startled by passersby; created by wildlife sculpture artist Kent Ullberg

‘How Does it Survive?’ Activity in Student Handout

Discuss the different plants observed in the Song of the Lark Meadow. Point out prairie grass plants and use the illustration on page 3 of the Student Handout to discuss how these plants can survive in extreme conditions. Have students complete the activity on page 4.



Lauritzen Gardens
How does it Survive? (cont.)

Humans

What do people do to survive when it is cold outside?

What do people do to survive when it is hot outside?

What do people do to stay dry when it is raining?

What can people do to protect themselves from the sun?

Thank you for visiting Lauritzen Gardens!

Restroom facilities and drinking fountains are located in the southwest corner of the Visitor and Education Center.