



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

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.

Discovery tours do not include visiting the Conservatory, the Woodland Trail or the Visitor and Education Center

Nebraska State Standards found in this packet:

SC.4.6.3.B Construct an argument that plants and animals have internal and external structures that function to support survival, growth, behavior, and reproduction.

SC.4.13.4.B Make observations and/or measurements to provide evidence of the effects of weathering or the rate of erosion by water, ice, wind, or vegetation.

Iowa State Standards found in this packet:

4-LS1-1

Construct an argument that plants and animals have internal and external structures that function to support survival, growth, behavior, and reproduction.


4-ESS2-1

Make observations and/or measurements to provide evidence of the effects of weathering or the rate of erosion by water, ice, wind, or vegetation.

Pre- and Post-Field Trip Activities:

Pre-

- Outline the focus of your field trip with your students
- Have them fill out the remaining pieces of the sheet
- Discuss when finished

Leather Center
Post-Field Trip Activity 


Focus of the field trip: _____

What the field trip LOOKED like	What the field trip SOUNDED like

At the end of the field trip, two things I learned were...

Post-

- Upon returning, fill out a similar form
- Share when finished

Leather Center
Pre-Field Trip Activity 

Focus of the field trip: _____

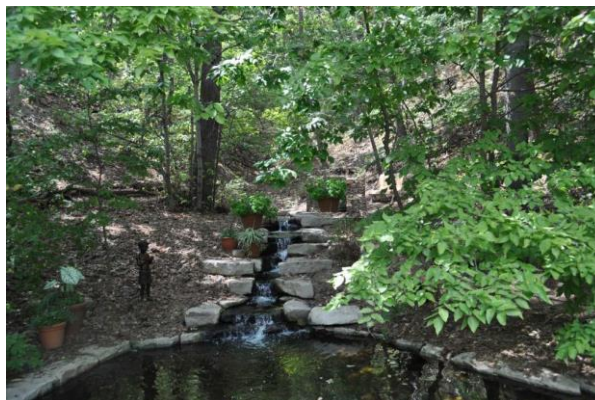
What the field trip might LOOK like	What the field trip might SOUND like

At the end of the field trip, I hope to...

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, across the road and down the hill



References and Notes

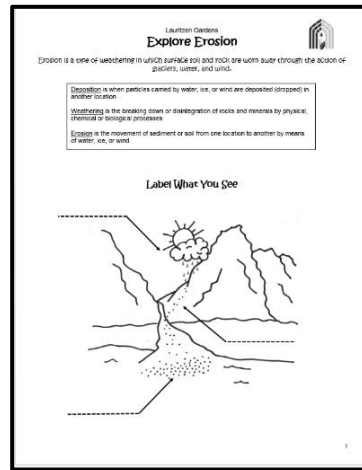
To view a video about erosion scan here:



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

Explore Erosion Activity in Student Handout

The effects of erosion and weathering are apparent at the Woodland Waterfall. Discuss weathering, erosion and deposition. Have students complete the activity on page 1 of the Student Handout.



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



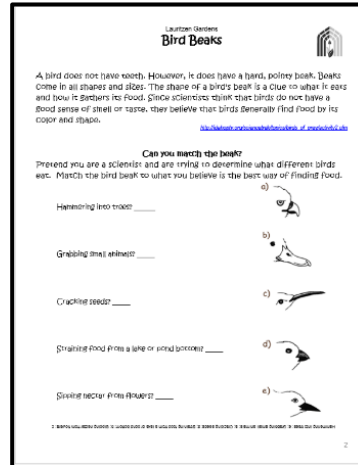
Arboretum (#11)

- ❖ 'Arboretum' means garden for trees
- ❖ Bronze sculpture of Sandhill 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



Bird Beak Activity in Student Handout

Discuss with students how bird beaks are adapted to a specific diet. Have students complete the activity on page 2 of the Student Handout.



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, pinecones, bark, bamboo, etc.)



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

Rose Garden (#13)

- ❖ This formal garden is planted with almost 2,000 rose plants including hybrid tea, grandiflora, floribunda, climbing and shrub roses
- ❖ There are two peak blooming seasons for the rose garden: late May and mid-September through frost








- ❖ Roses smell sweet to attract pollinators; roses have thorns to protect themselves from predators
- ❖ The central sculpture in the Rose Garden is an armillary sphere
 - The ancient Greeks are credited with inventing the armillary sphere, sometimes also known as the equatorial sundial; the armillary has adapted to reflect measuring time by shadows
 - Today garden armillary spheres are also known as “shadow clocks”
 - As the sun travels across the sky, the central arrow (or gnomon) of our armillary sundial casts a shadow onto a surface that indicates the hour

Plant Defenses Activity in Student Handout
All of the roses in the Rose Garden have thorns; some have more than others. This is a great segue to discussing how plants defend themselves. Have students complete the activity on page 3 of the Student Handout.

Lauritzen Gardens
Plant Defenses

Many animals depend on plants as food (or animals that plants don't have feet or legs to escape a hungry animal). So how do plants protect themselves? By using their DEFENSES! Plants over time have changed, or adapted, to survive in our environment in which they live. That means they have learned to protect themselves from heat, cold, wind, rain and even animals. What do you know about plant defenses? Draw a line connecting each plant defense to one of more threats.

Defense	Threat
<p>Thorns or Spines Thorns on a plant can be hard or sharp. They protect against hungry animals who would eat the plant's leaves.</p>	<p>Fire </p>
<p>Thorns Bristles and prickles point hungry animals to prickling their noses on their noses.</p>	<p>Ants </p>
<p>Bark Trees can grow thick bark to protect them.</p>	<p>Thirsty Lizard </p>
<p>Poison Some plants have chemicals in them that can cause itching and a bad rash.</p>	<p>Hungry Rabbit </p>
<p>Hairs, Oils and Latex Small hairs and insects have a sticky substance called latex that can irritate and make are children's skin.</p>	<p>A Gardener </p>

Thank you for visiting Lauritzen Gardens!

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