

# 4<sup>th</sup> -6<sup>th</sup> Grade

## Lauritzen Gardens Guide

Gardens are full of surprises and fun things to discover!  
Work as a group to complete the tasks and answer the questions.

### Festival Garden Patio

- Find a plant that smells nice to you
- Find a plant you would like to grow in your backyard
- Find a plant that is native in tropical climates
  - What are ways this plant can grow in Nebraska which has a temperate climate?

### Woodland Pond and Waterfall

- Look at the waterfall and forest understory.
  - If you were a plant where would you live? Why?
- What adaptations would help you to live by the ground where it is shady? What adaptations would help you grow tall enough to reach the sunlight?

### Victorian Garden

- Put on your artists glasses, what colors do you see?
- What shapes do you see?
- What patterns do you see?
- Find an architectural artifact from the Omaha area and read its history.
- Gardens are living works of art, find your favorite piece of the artwork and explain why you like it to a friend.

### Garden in the Glen

- Can you find any Cottonwood trees, the state tree of Nebraska?  
(Hint: Look for light green leaves that look silver as the wind blows.)
- What parts of this garden are living? \_\_\_\_\_
  - Non-living? \_\_\_\_\_
- What parts are man-made? \_\_\_\_\_
  - Nature-made? \_\_\_\_\_

### **Arboretum and Bird Sanctuary**

This area has seven native plant and animal communities. Each community is also an ecosystem.

- Can you find one of the following for one or each community?
  - Producer: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Consumer: \_\_\_\_\_
  - Decomposer: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Model Railroad Garden**

- Can you find any buildings you recognize in Omaha?
  - Which building is a model of Lauritzen Gardens?
- Our trains travel on tracks with the help of electricity.
  - For an electric current to flow the circuit must be
    - A) OPENED or B) CLOSED?
  - When it rains we cannot run the trains, do you know why?

### **Rose Garden**

- Look at the stems of the roses, but do not touch... what do you see?
- Look at where the roses grow, what do you notice?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Stop and take a whiff. Which rose smells the best? (Watch out for bees, the state insect!)
- Based on your observations:
  - What adaptations do you notice the roses have?  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - How do you think these adaptations can help the roses?  
\_\_\_\_\_

### **Song of the Lark Meadow**

- Look at a wildflower. Identify different parts including the stem, leaves, flower, seeds. What other parts of the plant do you know?
- Can you identify parts of the flower including petals, pistil, stamen?
- Why can you not see the roots? Did you know the roots on prairie plants are typically twice as deep as the stem is tall. Why would the roots go so deeply?

### **Garden of Memories**

- Have you been to this garden before? Do you see any new bricks?
- Read the sayings. Which is your favorite? Why?
- What is one thing you want to remember from your visit today?

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