



# MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

Shaw's Satchel

## *In the Garden*

Grade Level: K-2

### **Teacher's Guide**

#### **Contents**

- Map of the Garden
- *A Guide to the Missouri Botanical Garden* book
- "Plant Parts: I Spy a Plant" Fact Sheet
- "Sculptures, Fountains, Pools, and Ponds" guide
- Brochures of Garden Highlights
  1. Chinese Garden
  2. The Climatron
  3. Japanese Garden
  4. Victorian Area
- *Shapes* Activity
- *Color* Activity
- *Leaf Shapes and Textures* Activity

#### **Missouri Science Standards**

III - 1D (K) (1st) a

III - 1D (1st) c

III - 1E (1st) a

VII - 1B (K) (1st) (2nd) a

VII - 1C (K) (1st) (2nd) a, b

VII - 1E (K) (1st) (2nd) a

VIII - 1A (K) (1st) a

## SHAPES

Though your students are probably already familiar with common shapes and colors, children may not know that shapes and colors are essential to garden design. Horticulturists carefully blend colors of plants and use design patterns in order to delight the eye. Contrasting colors or plant textures are often keys to an eye-catching display. Students will be able to see how garden design is an art form and understand the basic elements used.

### Objectives

- Identify shapes in plants and garden design.
- Increase observation skills.

Location/Activity	Leading Questions/Suggested Discussion
<b>Varies</b>	Today we're going to explore the garden and see what shapes and colors we can find. Let's practice right here. (Have children look for shapes in the area, then colors). It looks like you are ready to go, so let's start our exploration.
<i>Hand out different laminated shapes.</i>	There will be a "shape search" and each of you will look for your shape in this area. When you find something with your shape, raise your hand and an adult will check it and hand you a new shape to find. <b>Don't forget to look at the shape of the (varies), the design of the (varies), parts of plants, etc.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It looks like your doing great on you shape search!</li> <li>• Which shapes were the hardest to find?</li> <li>• Which shapes were easiest?</li> <li>• Do plants seem to have more round or square parts?</li> <li>• What about buildings?</li> </ul>

## COLORS

Though your students are probably already familiar with common shapes and colors, children may not know that shapes and colors are essential to garden design. Horticulturists carefully blend colors of plants and use design patterns in order to delight the eye. Contrasting colors or plant textures are often keys to an eye-catching display. Students will be able to see how garden design is an art form and understand the basic elements used.

### Objectives

- Recognize colors and patterns in the Garden.
- Increase observation skills.

Location/Activity	Leading Questions/Suggested Discussion
<b>Varies</b> <i>As you walk here, encourage the children to point out shapes on the way.</i>	Now we'll look for colors here in the (varies). Let's find out how the colors of trees and flowers, and even grass can make a garden bright and beautiful. (Note: In autumn, look for leaves.)  <b>(In order to add a little math to the lesson, you could have students count the number of petals on a flower or flowering tree, such as dogwood).</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It looks like your doing great on your color search!</li> <li>• Which colors were the hardest to find?</li> <li>• Which colors were easiest?</li> <li>• Do plants seem to have more of one color than another?</li> <li>• What was the most common color you found?</li> </ul>

## LEAF SHAPES and TEXTURES

Plant shapes and textures are often essential to the senses of sight and touch. Students will be able to see how garden design is an art form and understand the basic elements used.

### Objectives

- Identify shapes and textures in leaves and other plant parts.
- Increase observation skills.

Location/Activity	Leading Questions/Suggested Discussion
<p><b>Varies</b> <i>As you walk here, encourage the children to point out colors on the way.</i></p>	<p>Now we'll look for plant and leaf shapes and textures here in the (varies). Let's find out how the shapes and textures of plants can make a garden pleasing to the touch. <b>(Children may touch, but not pick the plants.)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• It looks like your doing great on your texture search!</li><li>• Which textures were the hardest to find?</li><li>• Which textures were easiest?</li><li>• Why do plant leaves have different textures? (<i>plant adaptation for defense and survival</i>)</li><li>• What was the most common leaf shape you found?</li></ul>