

Plants Make Sense!

BOOK 1:

Grades
K-1



SAN DIEGO
BOTANIC
GARDEN

Hello, explorers!

Welcome to San Diego Botanic Garden.

Gardens are living homes for plants and animals. We're so excited to share our garden with you. It is full of tall trees, colorful flowers, and plants from all around the world.

Today, you can use your eyes to look, your ears to listen, and your nose to smell the wonderful plants. **Have fun exploring, ask questions, and always be curious.**

Thank you for coming to learn and play at SDBG today!



WELCOME, EXPLORER!

Name:

Date:

Today's weather: *(Circle one)*



San Diego has a rare, Mediterranean **climate!**

San Diego's special **weather** means that we can grow lots of unique plants at the Garden.



Senses Scavenger Hunt

Look out for things you can see, hear, feel, touch or smell as you explore the Garden! When you find something that matches the description, mark it off on this page.

Something I can see and hear



A fuzzy plant



A waterfall



Rustling leaves



Wind



Something I can smell and touch



A tall plant



Animal sounds



Sunlight



A small plant



Activity:

Matching game: Match the five senses to the correct part of the body.

I see

I hear

I smell

I touch/feel

I taste





Mindfulness Moment 7

Smell

What does your nose know?
Plants are a big part of what we smell when we go outside. Sweet flowers, freshly cut grass, even the smell of rain!



"I smell **stinky** so bugs and snakes will leave me alone!"
—Skunk Plant



"I release a **strong, minty smell** when you rub my bumpy leaves!"
—White Sage



"My blooms **smell more at night** to attract moths and other pollinators."
—Jasmine

During dry weather, plants make oils that end up in the soil and rocks. When it rains, these oils release into the air, creating "**petrichor**" (*peh-truh-kor*), the famous rain scent!

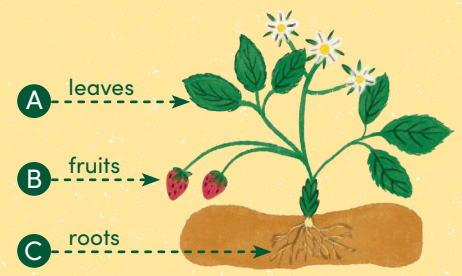
Happy Plants!

Activity: Match the plant part to what it does!

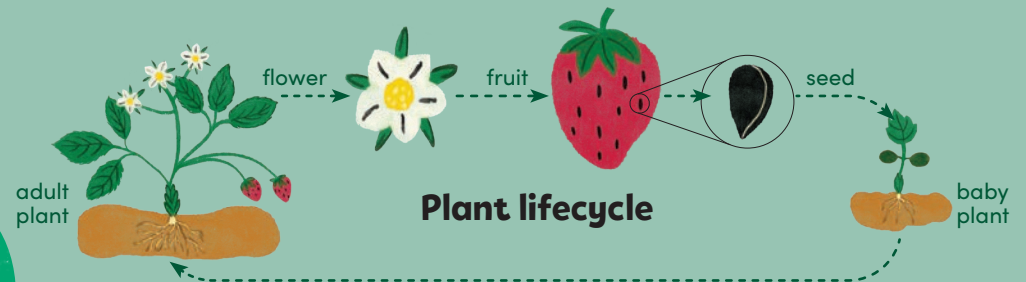
"I'm like a straw! I absorb water from the soil."

"I'm flat like a solar panel to absorb sunlight."

"I'm like a suitcase for seeds."



Like people, plants rely on their environment to meet their survival needs, like water and sunlight.





FIELD NOTES

Activity:

1. Draw a plant
2. Label its parts
(use the word bank!)
3. Write down more things
you notice on page 9.

Word Bank: Leaf; Roots; Stem; Flower; Fruit

Plant Name:

The plant is

I found it near

Something special I noticed about the plant is

.....

.....

.....

Critter Count: Use this area to keep count of all the bugs, birds, and other life you see in the Garden!



Mindfulness Moment 2

Hear

SDBG is home to the largest living collection of Bamboo in North America!

Bamboo is a **GIANT** grass! Grass is hollow, so wind and breath can move inside it. Many cultures use bamboo to make musical instruments, like flutes!

Can you hear the wind whistle?



A pan flute made from bamboo in Peru.



A collection of indigenous Mayan musical instruments.



Traditional shakuhachi player in Kyoto, Japan.

Activity:

I hear _____

It makes me feel _____

Plant Powers!

Plants have senses and bodies too! Just like us, they use parts of their bodies to **sense** and **change** their environment.

Activity: Circle a few examples of evidence that you've seen in nature.

Using smells and colors to attract or repel bugs and other animals

Closing flowers on a cloudy day

A cactus expanding to hold water inside

Growing toward the light

Dropping leaves during very hot or cold times

Tree roots cracking the sidewalk

Just like Goldilocks, plants need things to be just right! If plants don't get the right amount of water and sun, they can have problems growing happily.



too crispy



too wet



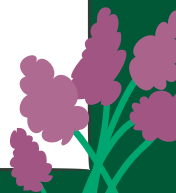
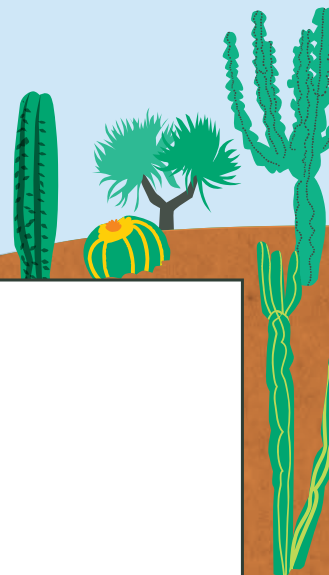
just right



Draw- observations!



Find a plant or special place that makes you smile!
Make notes about what you sense and observe.
(I see, I smell, I hear, I taste, I touch...)

A large, empty white rectangular box with a black border, intended for drawing observations.



At the San Diego Botanic Garden

I saw... _____

I smelled... _____

I used my senses to... _____

My favorite plant was... _____

The best part was... _____

BOTANIC EXPLORER NOTES

Use the space below for ideas, questions, notes, drawings... anything that caught your attention, or that you want to explore some more!



Chaperones! Use this code to take a survey and tell us about your experience today.



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