



Shakespeare Garden Discovery Journal

Supported by The Dr. Mortimer and Theresa Sackler Foundation

Name

Date of Visit



Welcome, Park Explorer!

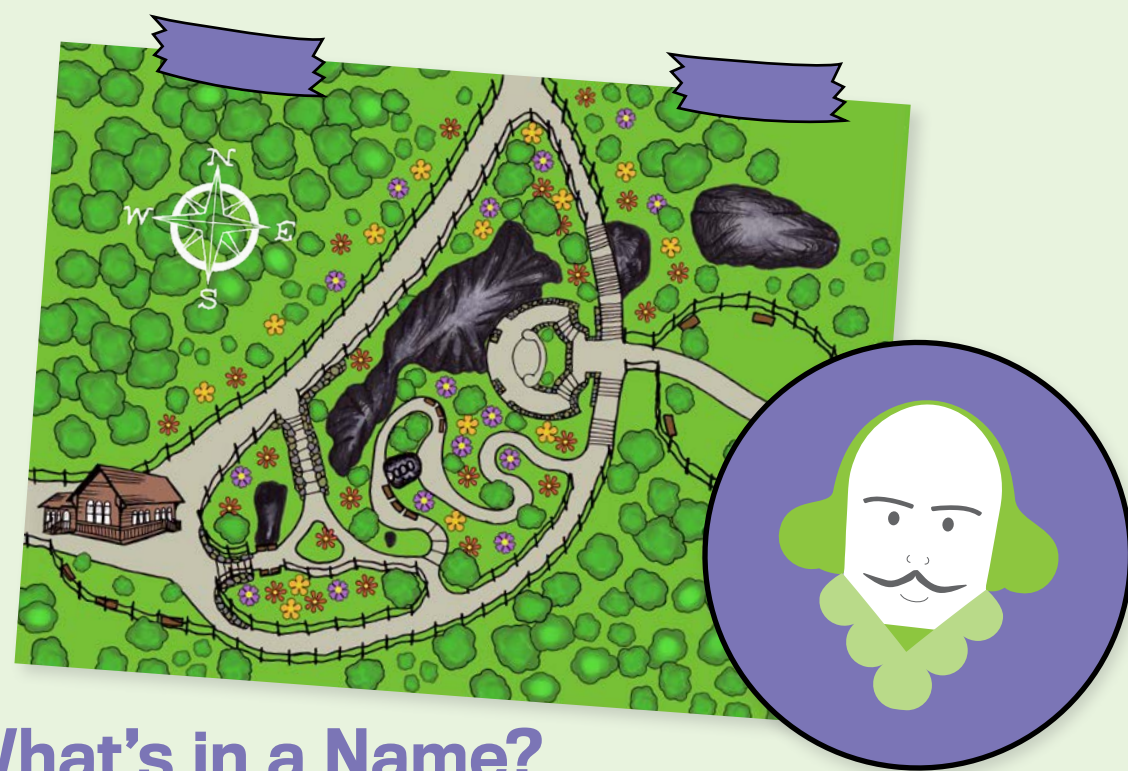
This journal is your guide to exploring Shakespeare Garden as a **designer**, a **gardener**, and a **naturalist**. By completing the challenges on these pages, you'll discover how designers, gardeners, and naturalists are also **stewards**, or caretakers, of this special place. With millions of visitors each year, it takes a lot of hard work to keep Central Park's landscapes healthy and beautiful.

The Central Park Conservancy is the official steward of Central Park. But we need your help, too! As you explore Conservatory Garden, follow the Park Explorer's Code of Conduct:

- ✓ **Stay on the path.**
Stepping on the flower beds can damage plants and disturb animals.
- ✓ **Take pictures, not souvenirs.**
If every visitor took home a flower or leaf, there wouldn't be any left.
- ✓ **Shhhhhh.**
Keep your voices down. Shakespeare Garden is a quiet zone.

✓ _____
✓ _____

Add one more guideline for Park Explorers to follow, so they can be stewards, too!



What's in a Name?

The Garden is named for William Shakespeare, the famous English poet and playwright. Here, you will find many of the same plants that Shakespeare mentioned in his plays and poems. Shakespeare's writing can be found on signs hidden in the Garden. Read carefully! The signs will tell you the names of nearby plants.



Discover!

Look for one sign as you explore the Garden, and mark its location on the map. What do you see near the sign?

Near the sign, I noticed...

In the Shakespeare Garden, I feel...

Can you find all 10 signs in the Garden?

Planning a Living Painting

Gardens are living paintings! But instead of using paint, some **designers** use plants to create artwork. Garden designers choose the plants according to how they grow, and in what season they bloom. When selecting and arranging plants, garden designers think about how plant colors, shapes, sizes, textures, and patterns (and even smells!) complement or contrast one another.

Discover!

Draw two leaf shapes and two flower shapes that you observe.

Draw your leaf shapes here!

Draw your flower shapes here!

Garden designers plan the style of each garden. Some gardens are designed to look very orderly, with flower beds planted in rows and plants and shrubs neatly trimmed. Others are designed to look wild, almost as if the garden has grown without any planning.

Discover!

Choose a flower bed to draw, and pay special attention to how the plants are arranged.

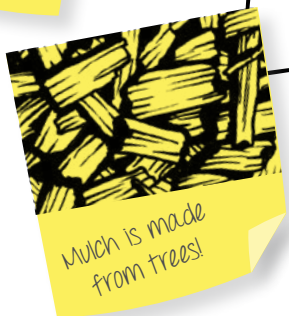
Name your living painting!

Who Makes a Garden Healthy?

Gardeners work hard to keep Shakespeare Garden healthy and beautiful all year. Here are just some of the things a gardener may do during the day.

ONGOING GARDEN PROJECTS

- ✓ Add new plants to change how the garden looks each season.
- ✓ Water the plants to help them grow.
- ✓ Add mulch around trees to protect roots and hold water.
- ✓ Remove litter to keep the garden beautiful.
- ✓ Remove weeds so that the other plants have enough room to grow.
- ✓ Deadhead plants to promote new flower growth.
- ✓ Prune trees and hedges to keep the plants healthy and to maintain their shape.
- ✓ Teach visitors about the garden and its history.



Draw a gardener taking care of Shakespeare Garden!

Keeping trees, shrubs (tree-like plants that have multiple woody stems), and vines healthy is an important part of a gardener's job. By pruning, or cutting back branches, gardeners make sure that the plants maintain their shape and grow stronger in the future.

Discover!

Look closely at a tree, shrub, or vine. Can you find where this plant was pruned? Draw the evidence you see and complete the Garden Project Report.

GARDEN PROJECT REPORT

Today's Project: Pruning

Plant type: ☐ tree ☐ shrub ☐ vine

Pruning evidence I observe:

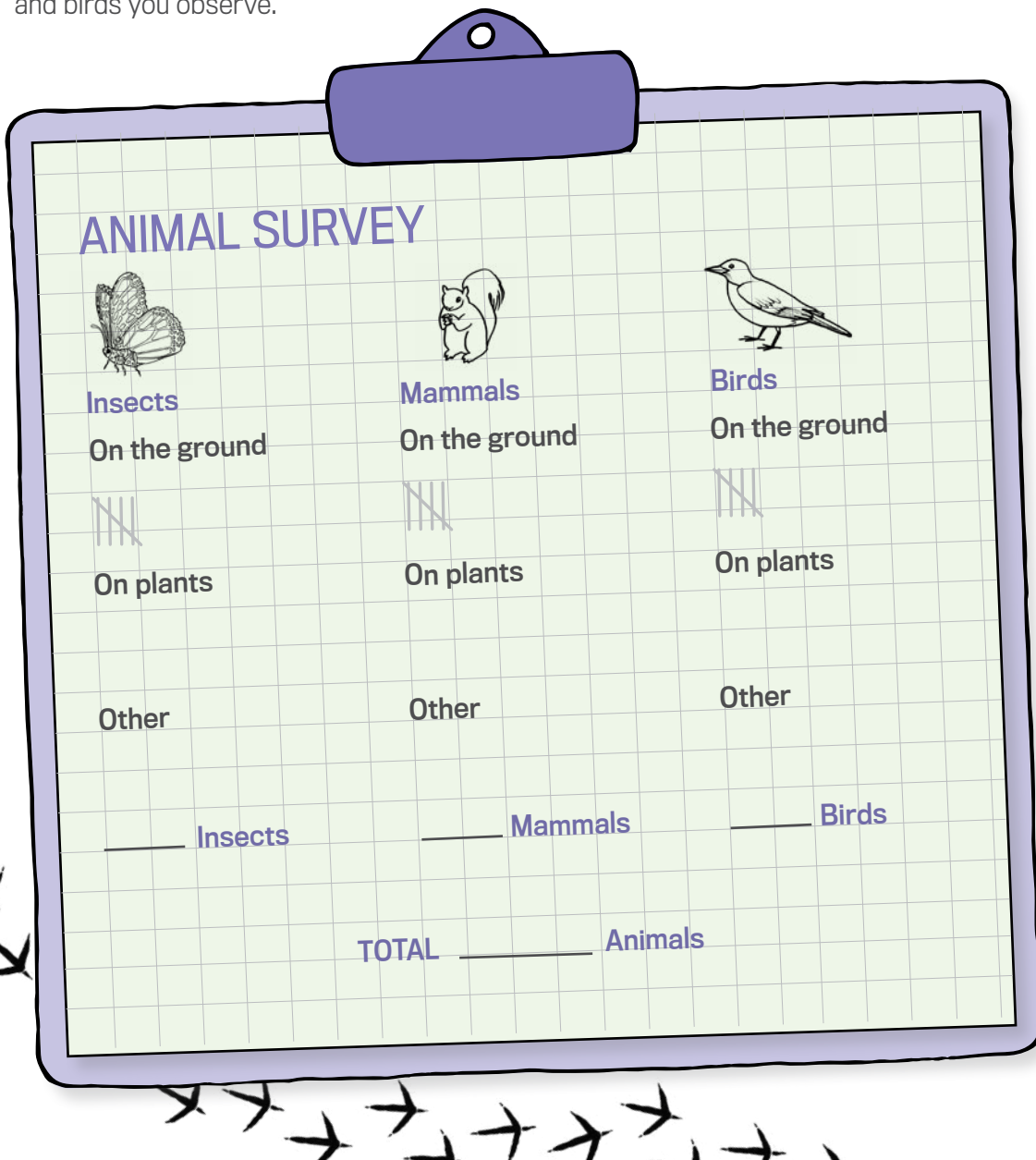
I think this plant was pruned ☐ recently ☐ a while ago because I notice...

Not Just for People!







Naturalists learn about animals by observing how they interact with their surroundings – what the animals are doing, and where they are doing it. Shakespeare Garden is a habitat, or home, for many animals that live in New York City for some or all of the year. The plants and plant beds provide animals with resources – food, shelter, space, and even water – that allow them to survive in an urban environment.

Discover!

Complete the Animal Survey by recording the number of insects, mammals, and birds you observe.



ANIMAL SURVEY


 Insects On the ground  On plants Other _____ Insects	 Mammals On the ground  On plants Other _____ Mammals	 Birds On the ground  On plants Other _____ Birds
TOTAL _____ Animals		

Discover!

Complete the Animal Card for one animal you observe in the Garden.

ANIMAL CARD

Animal Name



Draw your animal here!

Location
☐ Tree ☐ Plant ☐ Fence ☐ Bench ☐ Rock ☐ Flower ☐ Leaf
☐ Pathway ☐ Flower bed ☐ Other _____

Behavior
☐ Eating ☐ Flying ☐ Singing ☐ Resting ☐ Climbing ☐ Walking
☐ Crawling ☐ Drinking ☐ Building ☐ Other _____

Interesting Observation

CENTRAL PARK
CONSERVANCY
central to the park

CENTRAL PARK
CONSERVANCY
central to the park

Healthy Cities Need Healthy Parks!

Shakespeare Garden is one of many special places in Central Park where people can enjoy and explore the outdoors. Since urban parks provide so many benefits to people, people need to be stewards of urban parks – including Central Park!

Discover!

Review your Shakespeare Garden discoveries and complete your journal with the following entry.

Being an urban park steward is important because...

Official Steward

CENTRAL PARK
CONSERVANCY
central to the park

Central Park is MY Park!

You are one of millions of people who visit Central Park every year! With so many visitors, it takes a lot of hard work to keep Central Park's landscapes healthy and beautiful. The Central Park Conservancy is the official steward, or caretaker, of Central Park. By following the Park Explorer's Code of Conduct, you are a Central Park steward, too!

Steward




Discover Central Park!

The Central Park Conservancy offers a variety of Discovery Programs to help children explore Central Park and develop skills for inquiry, all in the world's greatest outdoor classroom.

Learn more: centralparknyc.org/discovery

Discovery Programs are generously supported by
The Dr. Mortimer and Theresa Sackler Foundation.

Share photos from today! #discovercentralpark

   @centralparknyc

Illustrations by Anne Yen.

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