

Ambler Arboretum of Temple University Self Guided Tour for the Senses: Seeing

Seeing Trail: Begins in the Healing Garden

Focus on Sun and Shadow and Pollinators, extension to habitats, solar cycles, insect vision and plant adaptations; conifers, angiosperms, gymnosperms

(This is a Loop)

- Sun and Shadows - notice how the sun creates shadows from the plants on the pathway. Can you trace the shadows with your fingers?
- Enter the Labyrinth - what shapes do you see here?
- Exit the labyrinth make a right on the gravel trail
- Pretend you are a bird looking for food. What do you think you can see from the air?
- Pretend you are an insect looking for food. What can you see from a plant?
- Pretend you are a mammal looking for food. What can you see from the ground?
- Go to the end of the trail and cross the asphalt to the bluestone accessible walkway.
- Follow this to the Formal Perennial Garden
- Make a right into the grass of the Formal Perennial Garden.
- Let's go on an insect hunt.
 - What insects do you see?
 - What colors are the flowers they are on?
 - What do they look like?
 - What are the different patterns you notice on the flowers?
 - Why do you think these flowers have different colors and different patterns?
- How many different shapes of flowers can you find in this garden?
 - What are the shapes?
- How many different types of insects can you find in this garden?
- Continue over the patio and between the pavilions. Notice the fountain.
- Go down the steps into the woodlands.
- Make a right.
- How many different types of flowers do you see here?
- How many flower colors? Shapes? Patterns?
- How many different insects do you see here?
- Why do you think there are more or less here than in the Formal Garden?



- Follow this gravel path to the T with an asphalt path. Make a right.
- On the left hand side is the Conifer Garden.
 - What do a lot of these plants have in common?
- Most of these plants are conifers - they do not get flowers.
- Do you think you will still find insects?
- What kinds?
- What have you found?
- Leave the Conifer Garden and cross the asphalt to the gravel path across from the Greenhouse.
- Pause on the boardwalk.
- You are now in a rain garden. This is a wetter part of the gardens.
- Observe the insects and flowers you find here.
- Are they different or the same?
- Return to the labyrinth. Walk the labyrinth, while you do so, contemplate the differences in the areas you explored today.
- When you get to the center, ask yourself a question about what you explore today
- As you walk the labyrinth to leave, try to answer your question or come up with a way to find the answer.
- Before you exit the labyrinth pause, take three breaths and quietly promise to make one change based on what you discovered today,

