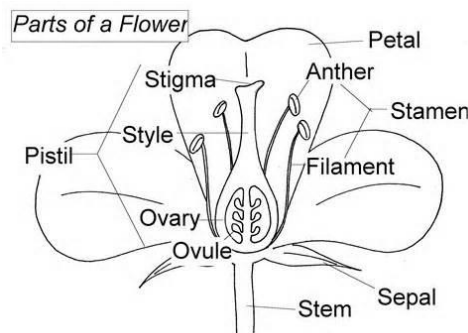


Flower & Garden Pavilion and The Atrium

A Floral Fairy Tale & the Looking Glass Beyond

Before your visit:

- Read the novel *Alice in Wonderland* by Lewis Carrol or watch the animated or live action movie.
- Explain the term “Wonderland” to the students. Have them draw their interpretation of what would be in their wonderland. Guide them by asking the question “What would be in your Wonderland?” Would it be full of candy, animals or pizza? Have them write a short story about their Wonderland.
- Review the parts of a plant (roots, stem, leaf, and flower.) Discuss why plants are important and list on chart paper (provide food, provide oxygen, prevent erosion, provide shelter, provide raw materials, provide medicine, provide scents/perfume, and provide beauty.)
- Discuss the parts of a flower (see diagram below.) Draw and label the parts on chart paper. Have the students draw and label the parts on paper.



- Have students choose one of the following birds to research; flamingos, dodo birds, parrots, owls, kestrels or toucanettes. Students can work in groups or pairs. Have students create a poster board about their bird and present their board to the class.



During your visit:

- Visit the **Wonderland Stage** and learn how to prune, trim, and shape hedges to create topiaries, how to pot your very own flower teacup centerpiece or create your very own fairy garden.
- Visit the **Looking Glass Stage** to watch and learn about the majestic creatures highlighted in the exhibit including the hedgehog, owl, birds and rabbits.
- Visit the Roses Row and the Queen's Court. Look for the queen and her army of cards. See if you can catch them performing any royal duties.
- Observe the many types of flowers and plants at the Flower and Garden Pavilion. Did you find your favorite flower among the displayed flowers? Draw at least three flowers from the display and label their parts. Do you have a new favorite flower? If so, take a picture with a camera or cell phone. What are the names of the flowers that you have drawn?
- Visit *The Looking Glass and Beyond Atrium*. See how many different animals you can identify.

After your visit:

- Discuss the plants and flowers that students observed in the exhibit.
- Share the pictures and drawings and that the students created from the exhibit.
- Review the parts of the flower (see above.)
- Demonstrate how to dissect a flower and have students dissect a flower in pairs. On chart paper, list the steps for dissection and have the students copy and draw and label the parts on paper.
- Have a discussion about the queen and her army. Have the students describe what they think the role of the queen and the army are. Have them write a perspective essay where they are pretending that they are the king or queen and they have their own army. What would they have their army do? How would they dress? Adjust the number of paragraphs based upon your grade level and amount of time available.

- Discuss the history and background of Fairy Tales

A **fairy tale** is a type of short story that typically features folkloric fantasy characters, such as dwarves, dragons, elves, fairies, giants, gnomes, goblins, griffins, mermaids, talking animals, trolls, unicorns, or witches, and usually magic or enchantments. Fairy tales may be distinguished from other folk narratives such as legends (which generally involve belief in the veracity of the events described)^[1] and explicitly moral tales, including beast fables. The term is mainly used for stories with origins in European tradition and, at least in recent centuries, mostly relates to children's literature.

In less technical contexts, the term is also used to describe something blessed with unusual happiness, as in "fairy tale ending" (a happy ending)^[2] or "fairy tale romance" (though not all fairy tales end happily). Colloquially, a "fairy tale" or "fairy story" can also mean any far-fetched story or tall tale; it is used especially of any story that not only is not true, but could not possibly be true. Legends are perceived as real; fairy tales may merge into legends, where the narrative is perceived both by teller and hearers as being grounded in historical truth. However, unlike legends and epics, they usually do not contain more than superficial references to religion and actual places, people, and events; they take place once upon a time rather than in actual times.^[3]

Fairy tales are found in oral and in literary form; the name "fairy tale" was first ascribed to them by Madame d'Aulnoy in the late 17th century. Many of today's fairy tales have evolved from centuries-old stories that have appeared, with variations, in multiple cultures around the world.^[4] The history of the fairy tale is particularly difficult to trace because only the literary forms can survive. Still, according to researchers at universities in Durham and Lisbon, such stories may date back thousands of years, some to the Bronze Age more than 6,000 years ago.^[5] Fairy tales, and works derived from fairy tales, are still written today.

- Have students compile a list of the characteristics or phrases associated with a fairy tale and then do a quick write, a page or less, of a fairy tale.