

# Garden Exploration for Kids!

## 1. The Desert

Plants that live in deserts have adapted to survive this very harsh climates. What tools have these plants developed to survive from hungry animals and the hot, dry environment?

## 2. Secret Spot

Find the dirt path that leads under the sprawling juniper bush to a hidden bench. Can you find other secret spots and tunnels that animals may use?

## 3. Turtle Pond

Year-round water is rare in Southern California. How are the plants in and around the pond different from nearby plants?

## 4. The Meadow

Insects love our native California plants! Stand very still and notice all the movement in the meadow—busy bees, soaring butterflies, beetles emerging from leaf litter. What do you see?

## 5. Top of the Meadow

Stand on top of Mosaic Bench and look for Santa Cruz Island off the coast. The weather conditions on the Channel Islands are quite different than here on the mainland, for example, there's more moisture from coastal fog.

When you return to the main path, take a look at the Island Oak across from the steps to the Redwoods. Compare its features (leaves, acorns,, etc.) to one of the Coast Live Oaks nearby. How might living on an island influence differences between them?

## 6. Redwoods

These redwood trees are about 90 years old, but since they can live to be over 1000, they're really only kids! Feel the bark of one of them. How would you describe it?

Observe "60 Seconds of Stillness." Keep your eyes open and as still as possible. What do you see, hear, feel and smell?

## 7. Stonecutter's Cave

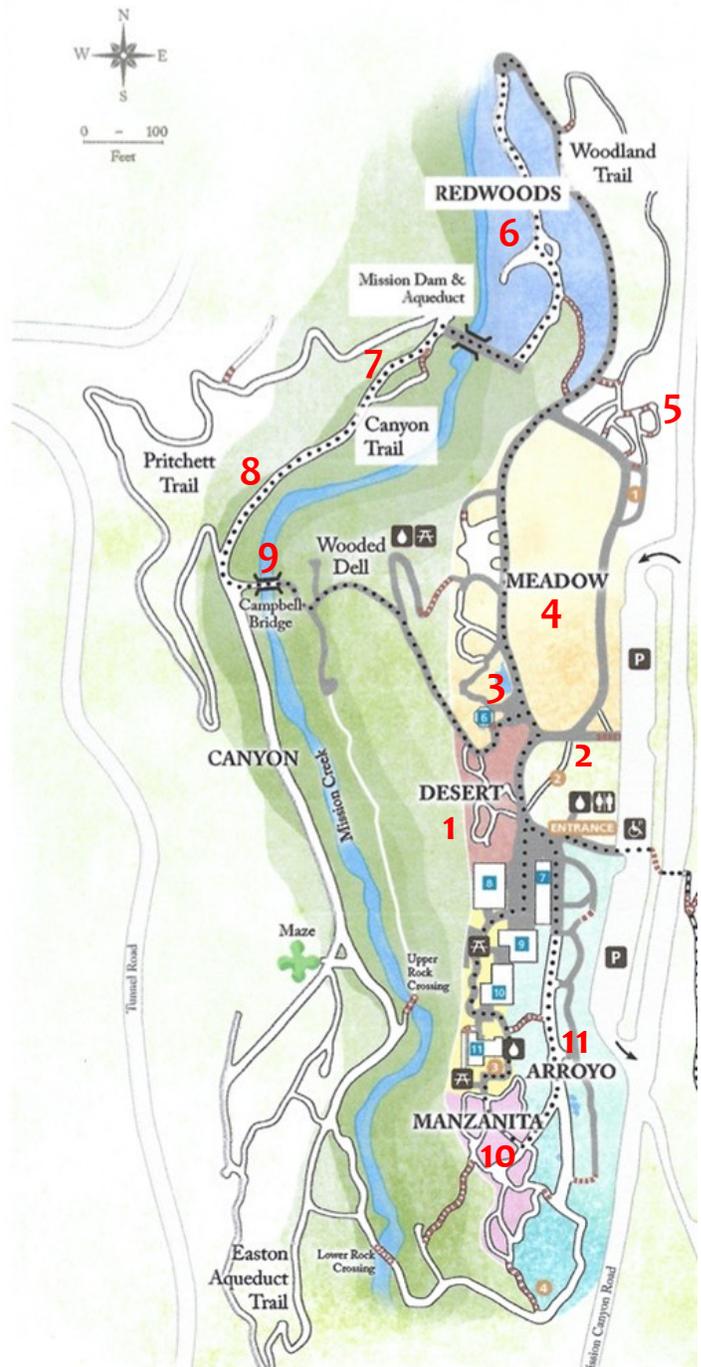
What evidence of human activity can you see here? How old do you think it is? Who do you think used this area?

## 8. Canyon

Is there water in the creek? In California, it only rains reliably in the winter, so most of the year the dry creek beds are dry. How do you think these plants get water during dry months?

## 9. Campbell Bridge

Walk to the middle of the bridge and look upstream. How did that huge boulder get there? Where did it come from? Have you seen other boulders in the Garden?



## 10. Manzanita

Look at the beautiful shapes these plants make. Strike a pose to mimic your favorite one. Manzanitas can be found throughout California. Next time you're on a hike, look for plants with smooth, red bark and small round leaves that are characteristic of Manzanitas.

## 11. Arroyo

This section has a wide variety of plants. What are the different shades of green these plants make? How many different kinds of leaves do they have?

# GARDEN SCAVENGER HUNT

- find a huge rock
- spot a cool looking tree
- listen to the birds
- look at something  
while lying on your back or belly
- find a ♥ shaped leaf or rock

Can you find?



big leaf



hummingbird



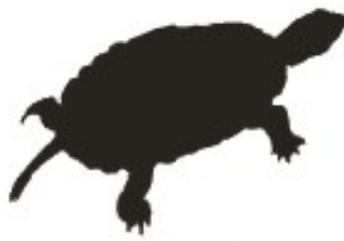
spider web



cactus



taco-shaped leaf



turtle



CA poppy



fruits and seeds