

We're visiting the Conservatory of Flowers!

A pre-visit social story for visiting classes



Hi Educators!

Please make a copy of this slide deck and adjust it as needed to your specific class trip details. If you have questions about accessibility, please reach out to: education@gggp.org
We look forward to seeing you soon!

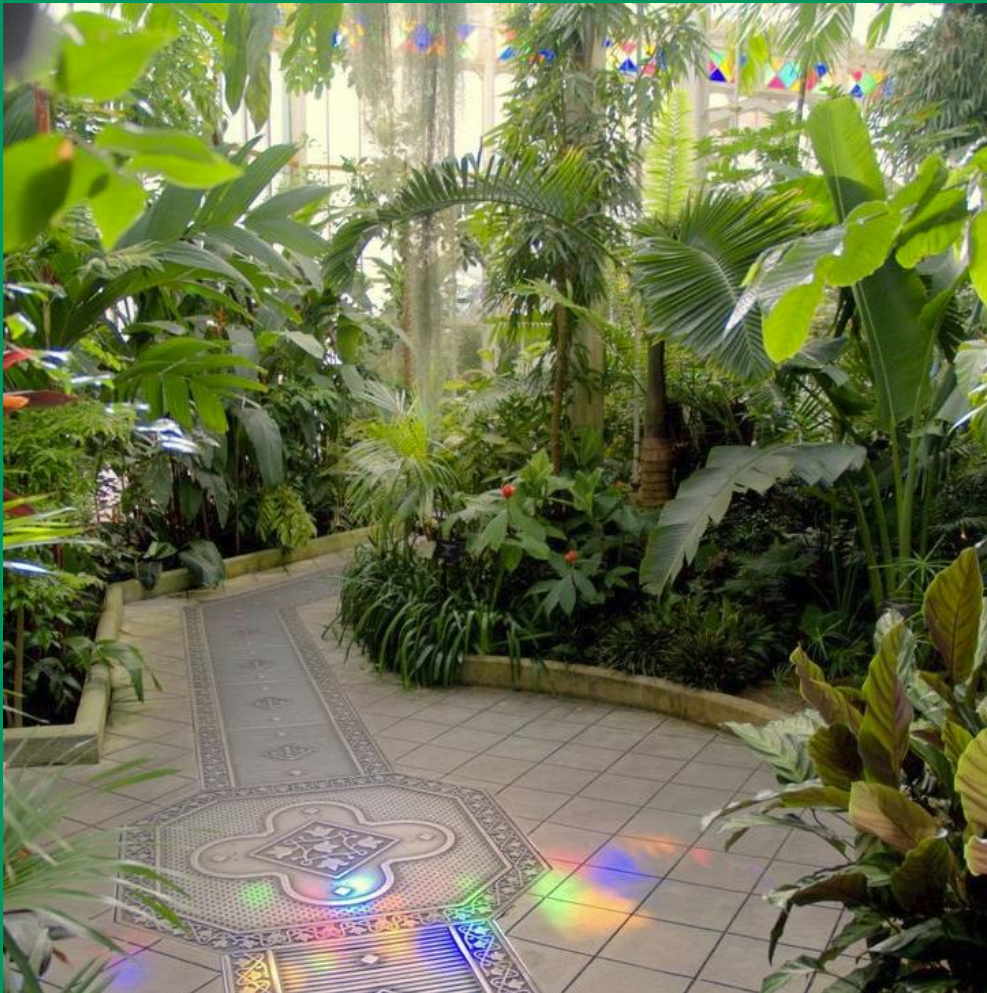
The Gardens of Golden Gate Youth
Education Team

What is a social story?

Social stories break down situations, such as visiting a new place, into clear, positive, step-by-step explanations. This makes them a powerful tool for teaching and setting expectations in a way that is supportive rather than overwhelming. They give people the confidence to navigate new or challenging experiences, easing anxiety and promoting independence.

A social story is a visual story that can help people understand expectations and emotions and generate regulated responses in a variety of situations. They are a tool originally developed for children with autism but have been useful for all people entering new situations.

We are going on a field trip to the Conservatory of Flowers! It is a very special place that has plants from tropical environments, like rainforests. Adults and children from all over the world come to see this special place.



To get to the Conservatory of Flowers we might take a bus or carpool. Once we are in the park, we will walk to the Conservatory of Flowers. We will use the bathroom in the building next door before we check in for the field trip.



Teachers – if you need more information about transportation and parking, please visit our FAQ's:

www.gggp.org/learn/for-schools-teachers

When our group is ready, a teacher will go by themselves to check in at the Entry Desk. Then, we will get into small groups, and a staff member will welcome us in. These staff members will also help us if we need anything, like first aid or lost and found.



Our teacher will let us know if we have activities planned, such as an activity sheet. There may be a Garden volunteer who can help us find interesting plants.



While we are inside, we will use walking feet, not running. We will also talk quietly, with normal or whisper level voices.



Voice Zones	
4	Outside Voice Playground Talk
3	Loud Proud Voice Classroom Talk
2	Normal Voice Table Talk
1	Whisper Voice Partner Talk
0	Silent Voice No Talking

When we explore the galleries we can smell, look closely at plants, and sometimes there are pieces of trimmed plants that we can touch. To take care of the living plants, we will not touch them.

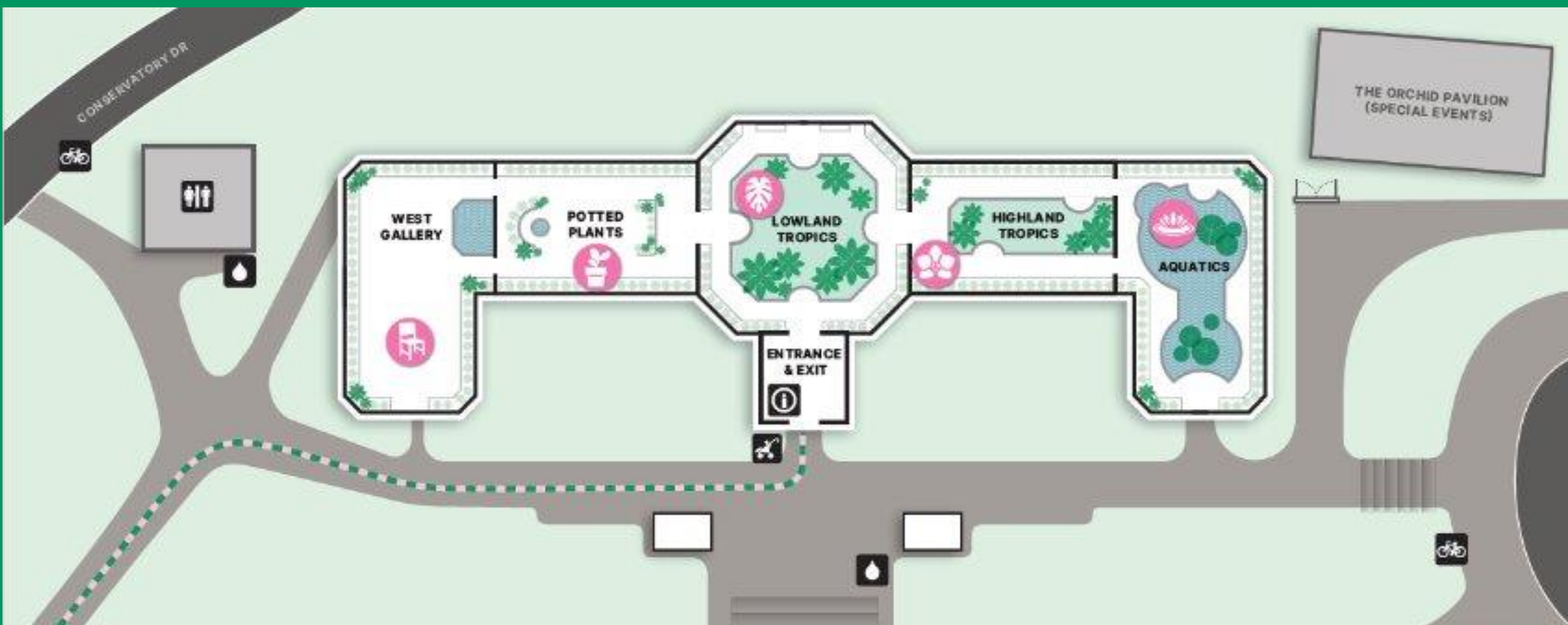


Inside the galleries we might notice animal sounds-- those aren't real animals. They are a recording that represents animals that might live with these plants. If I have sensory headphones, I can put them on while inside.



If you're ever very uncomfortable and need to step outside, let an adult know!

There are usually five galleries open that we can explore with our groups. Each gallery has different types of plants and environments. You may notice that the temperature feels different too!



Lowlands Gallery: This Gallery is designed to look and feel like a tropical rainforest or jungle. Here we can try to find the largest leaf in the Conservatory!



Highlands Gallery: This cool and misty gallery is home to plants from mountain tops in the tropics. Be sure to look up, down and all around to find rare flowers and small plants that thrive here. During our trip we can try to find smallest flowers in the Conservatory.



Aquatic Plants Gallery: The warm pools in this gallery are like a river winding through the tropics. On our trip we can discover plants that live in or on water.



These plants come from places that are HOT and WET. Do you know any places like that?



Potted Plants Gallery: This gallery is constantly being updated with incredible potted plants. When we are here, we can search for our favorite smelling flower.



West Gallery: This is a calm place to rest among the fern fronds of the West Gallery. There are multiple benches, and in certain seasons there are special plant displays.



Lunch or Snacks: When we are hungry, we can picnic on the grass in front of the Conservatory of Flowers.



Once we complete our visit, we will head outside of the Conservatory of Flowers and go over the next part of our plan before heading back to school. We may send notes to Garden staff to tell them what our favorites were!

