

We're visiting the Conservatory of Flowers!

A pre-visit social story for field trips



Hello All!

Please go over these details to prepare you and your group for your field trip.

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 Park
Education Team



CONSERVATORY
OF FLOWERS

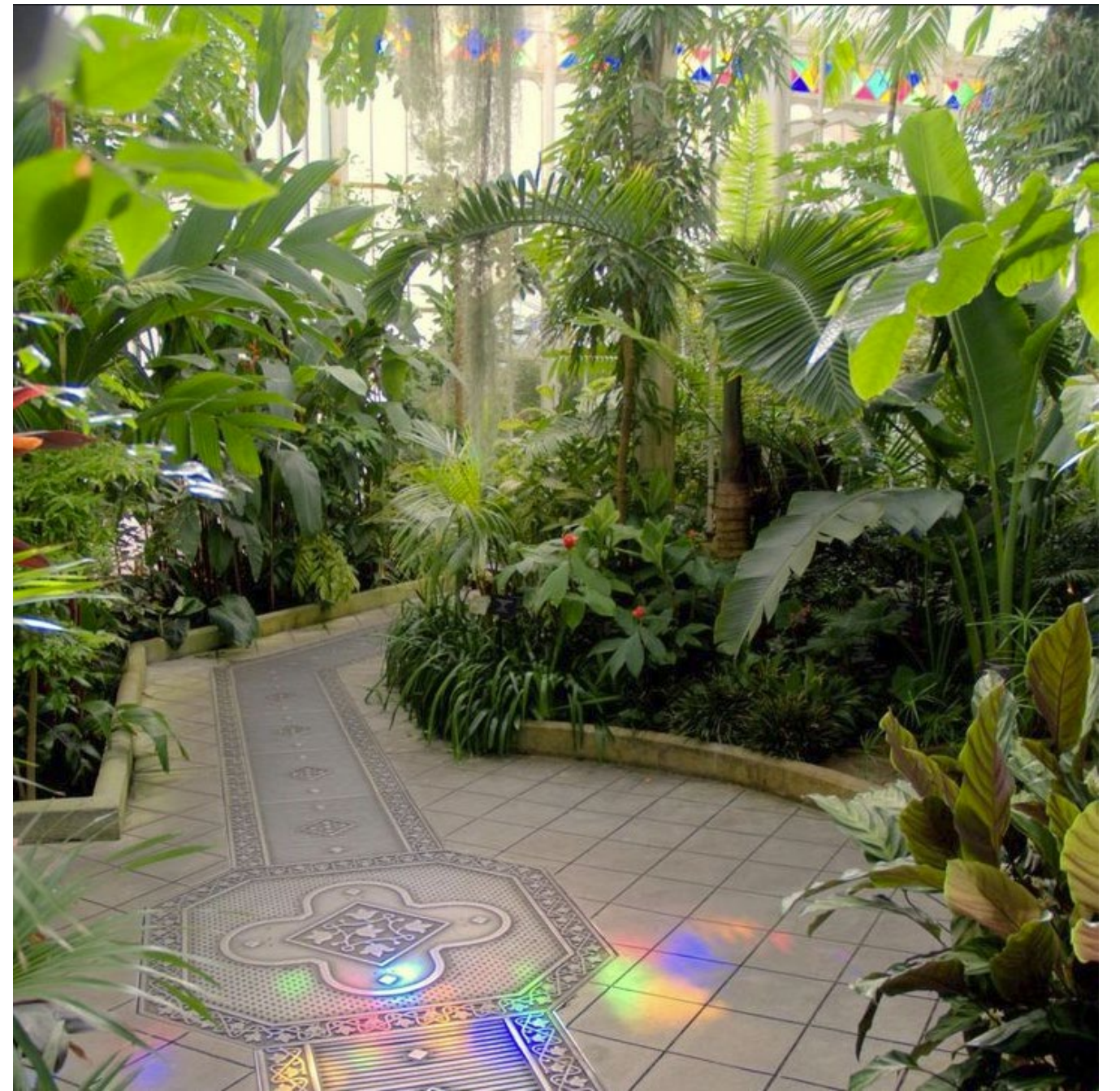
What is a social story?

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 to the Conservatory of Flowers in San Francisco!

People come from all over the world to see this special place. It is the oldest building in Golden Gate Park, built in 1879, and it includes remarkable plants from tropical places.



Ideas for what to wear

The inside of the building will feel like a tropical rainforest – it is often warm and humid. Because of that we may wear layers that help us feel cool, like a t-shirt.



Getting to the Conservatory of Flowers

The Conservatory of Flowers is located along a car-free road. To get there we will need to walk from wherever we parked or unloaded from a bus.



If you are arriving on a school or charter bus, please unload at the [DeYoung Museum](#). This is the most accessible loading zone. From there it is about a 15-minute walk or roll to the Conservatory of Flowers.

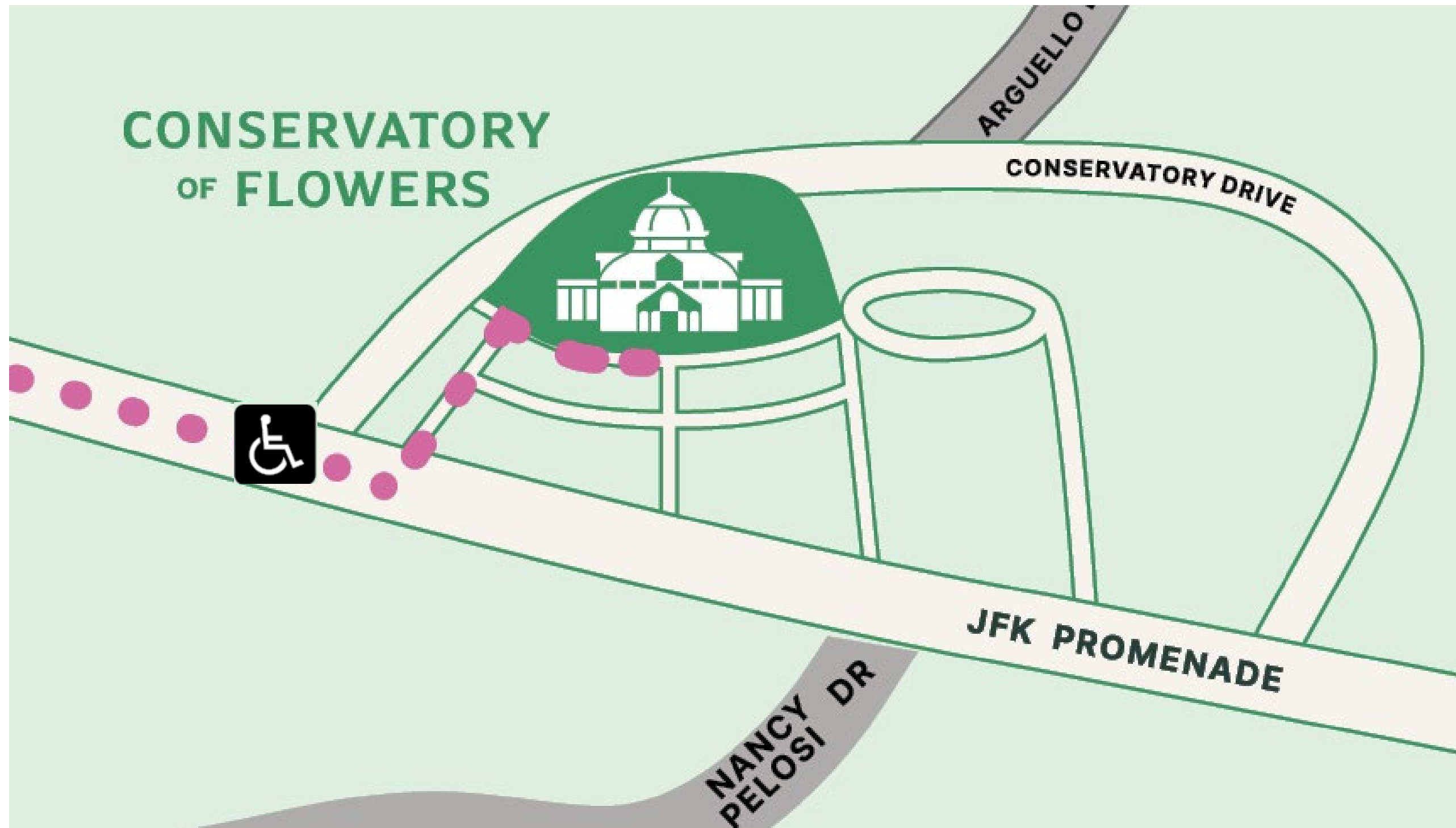
For more information about transportation and parking, please visit: gggp.org/getting-here



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Accessible Pathway

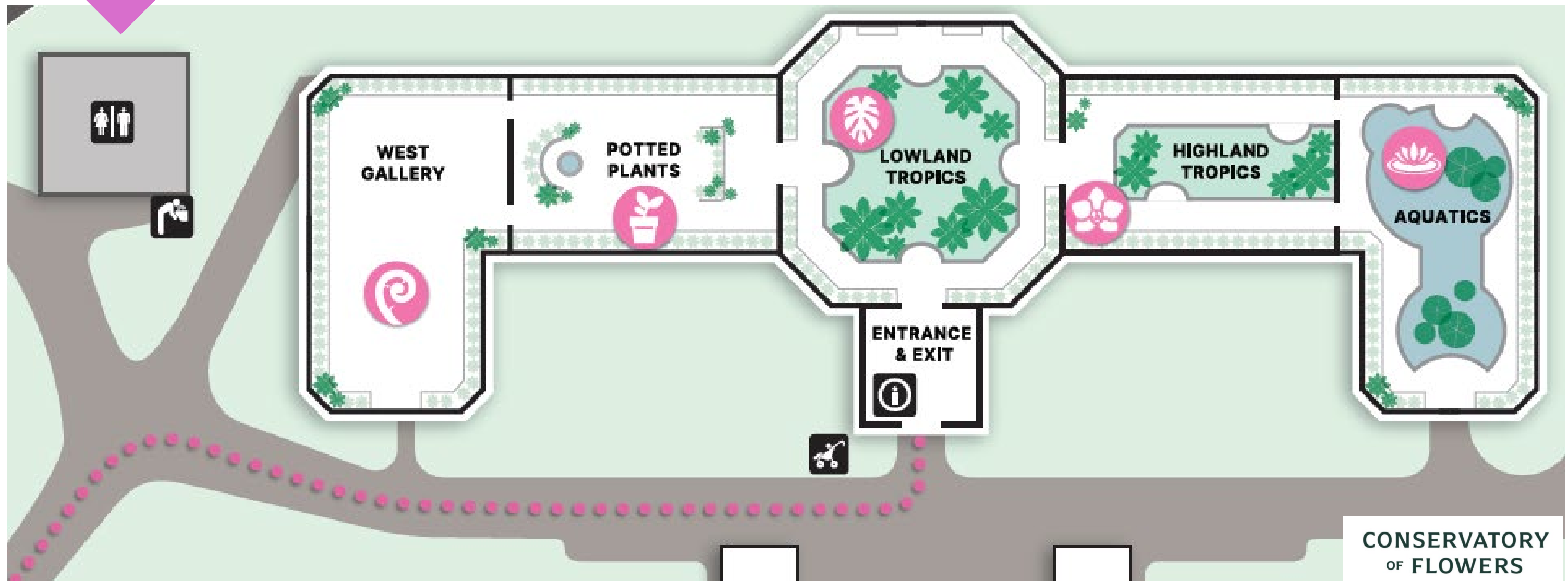
If anyone in our group cannot use stairs, we can get to the Conservatory by using the pathway from the left side of the building, marked by the pink dots on this map.





Restroom & Drinking Fountain

Before we enter the Conservatory, we can use the restroom and water fountains at a small building on the left side of the Conservatory. There are no restrooms or eating areas inside, but we can always go and in-and-out of the Conservatory if we need.



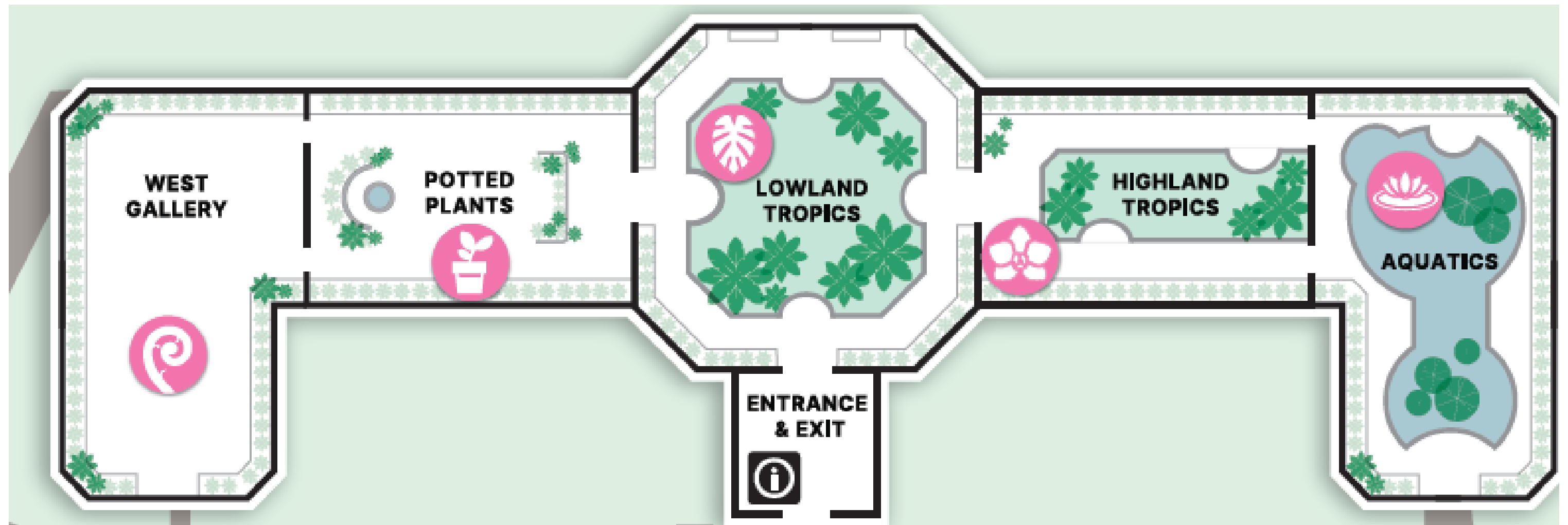
Group Check-in

When we are ready, our group leader will go through the center door to check in at the Entry Desk. The staff members at this desk help with check-in, first-aid, and lost-and-found. They can answer questions that we have.



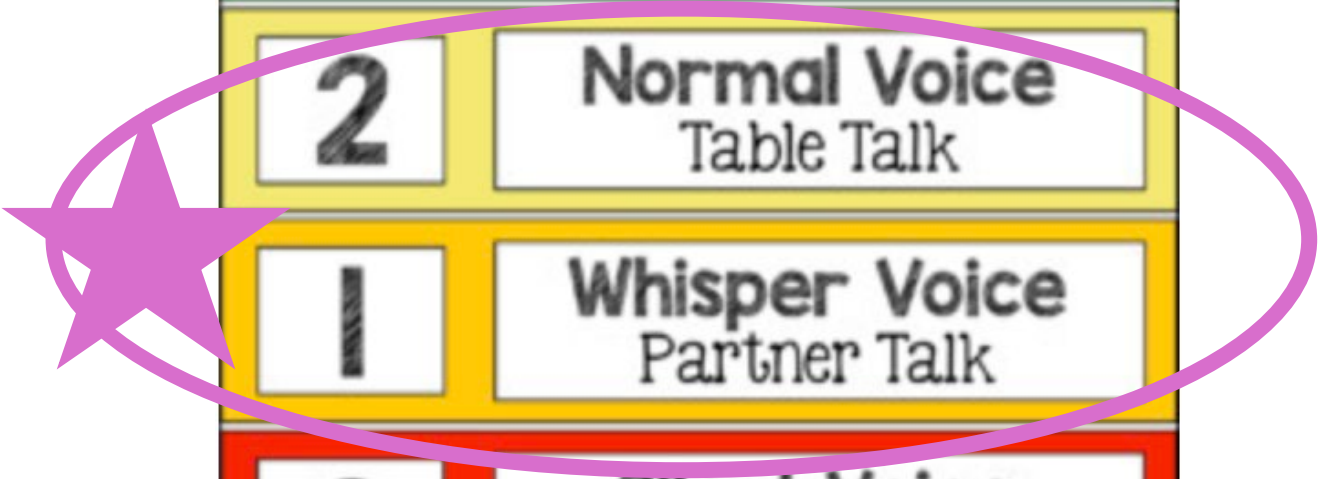
Map of the Galleries

After check-in we can break into small groups to explore the different galleries. Each gallery has different types of plants and different temperatures.



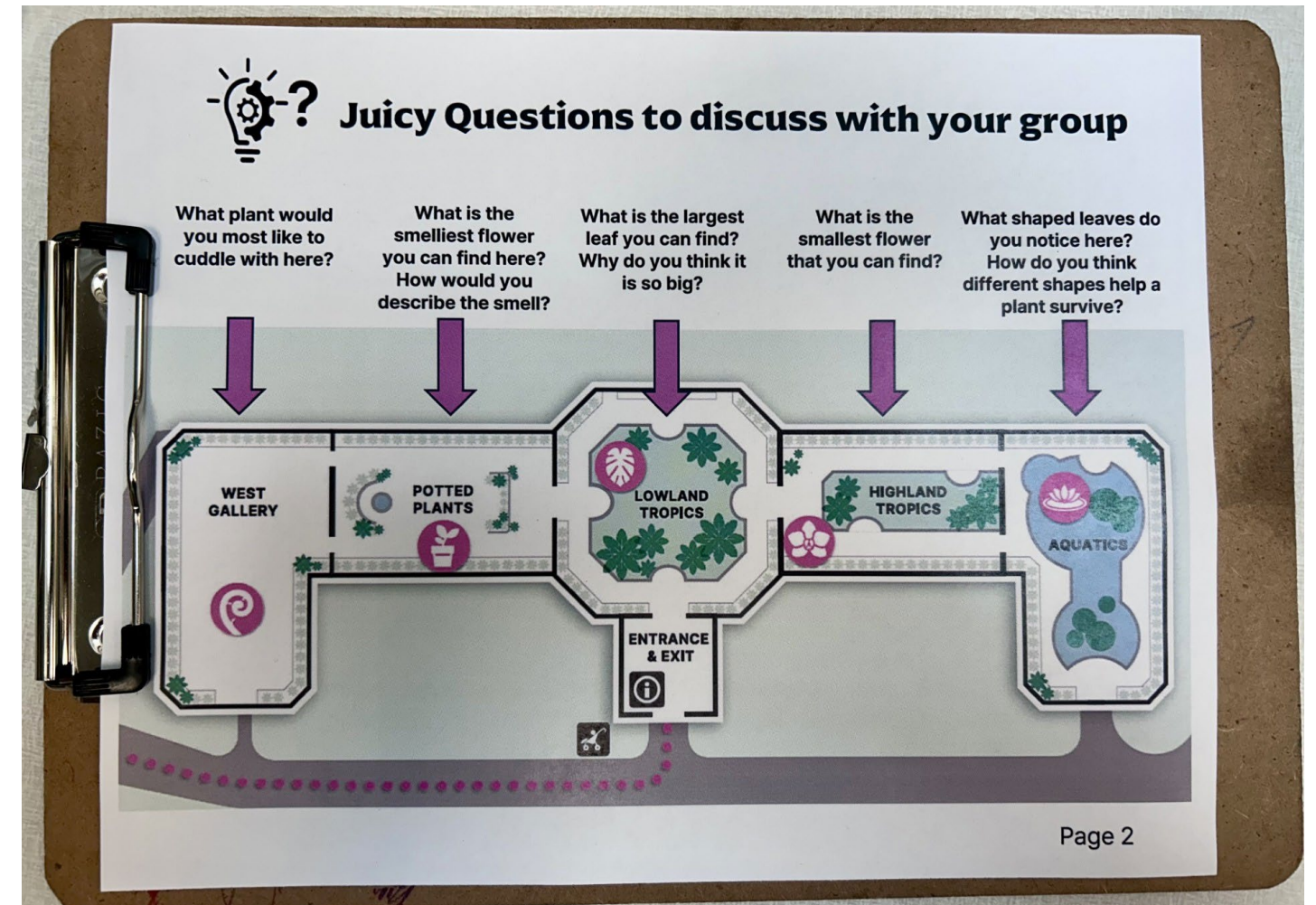
Being Aware of Our Bodies

When we explore the galleries, we can smell and look closely at the living plants. To take care of the living plants, we will not touch them. 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

Our group leader 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.



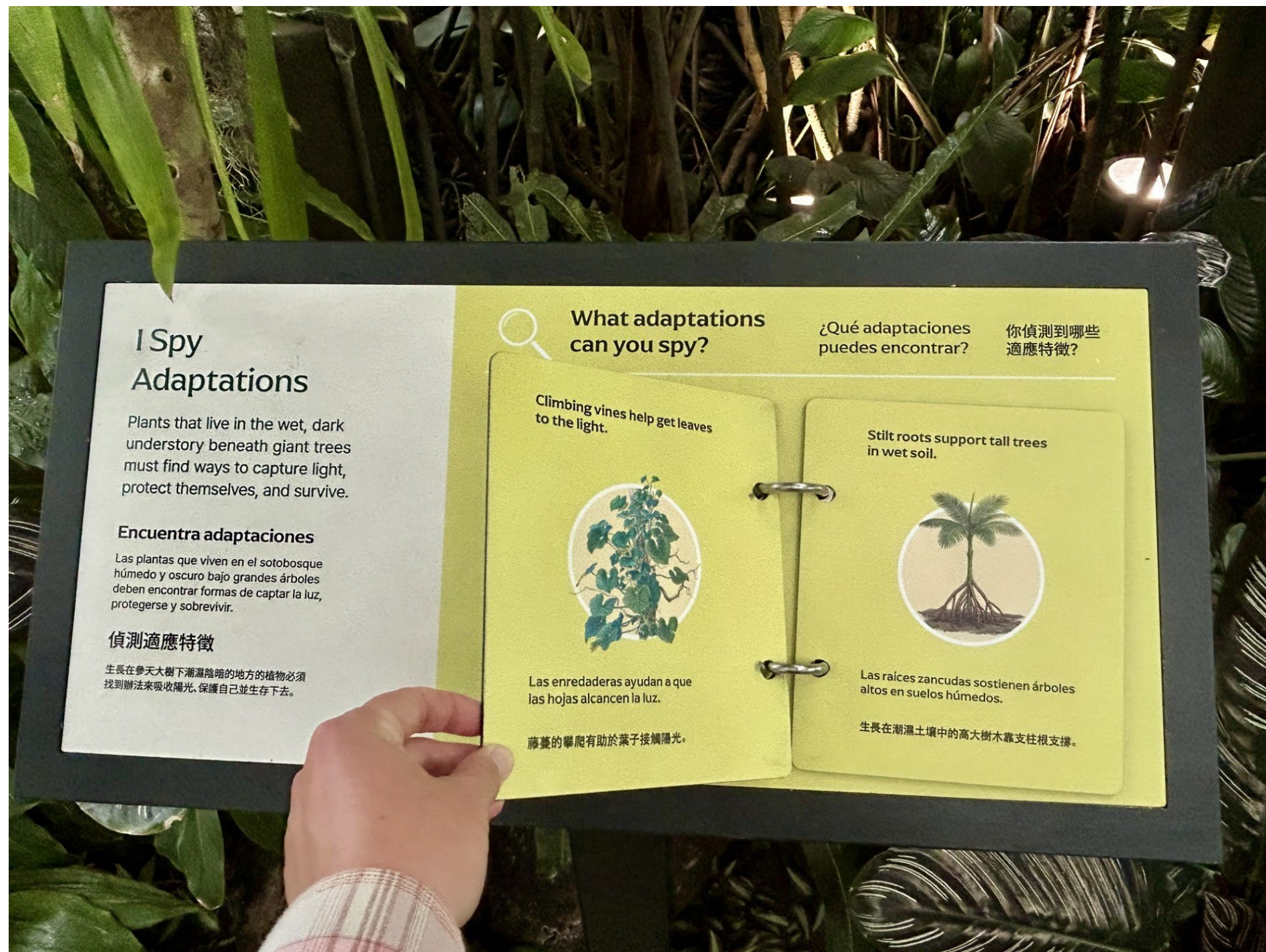
There are free printable activities you can download from our website, or you can create your own.

gggp.org/field-trips



Places to touch

We can touch the multilingual signs and flipbooks. Sometimes there are pieces of trimmed plants that we can also touch.



Soundscapes

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 or people in your group are ever uncomfortable and need to step outside, let a group leader know!

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. In this gallery we can discover plants that live in, on or near water.



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 chairs and benches. 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. There isn't any food for sale at the Conservatory, so we should pack food if we think we might get hungry on the field trip.



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Thank you!

Once we complete our visit, we will head outside of the Conservatory of Flowers and go over the next part of our plan for the day.

We may send notes to the Garden staff to tell them what our favorites were!

