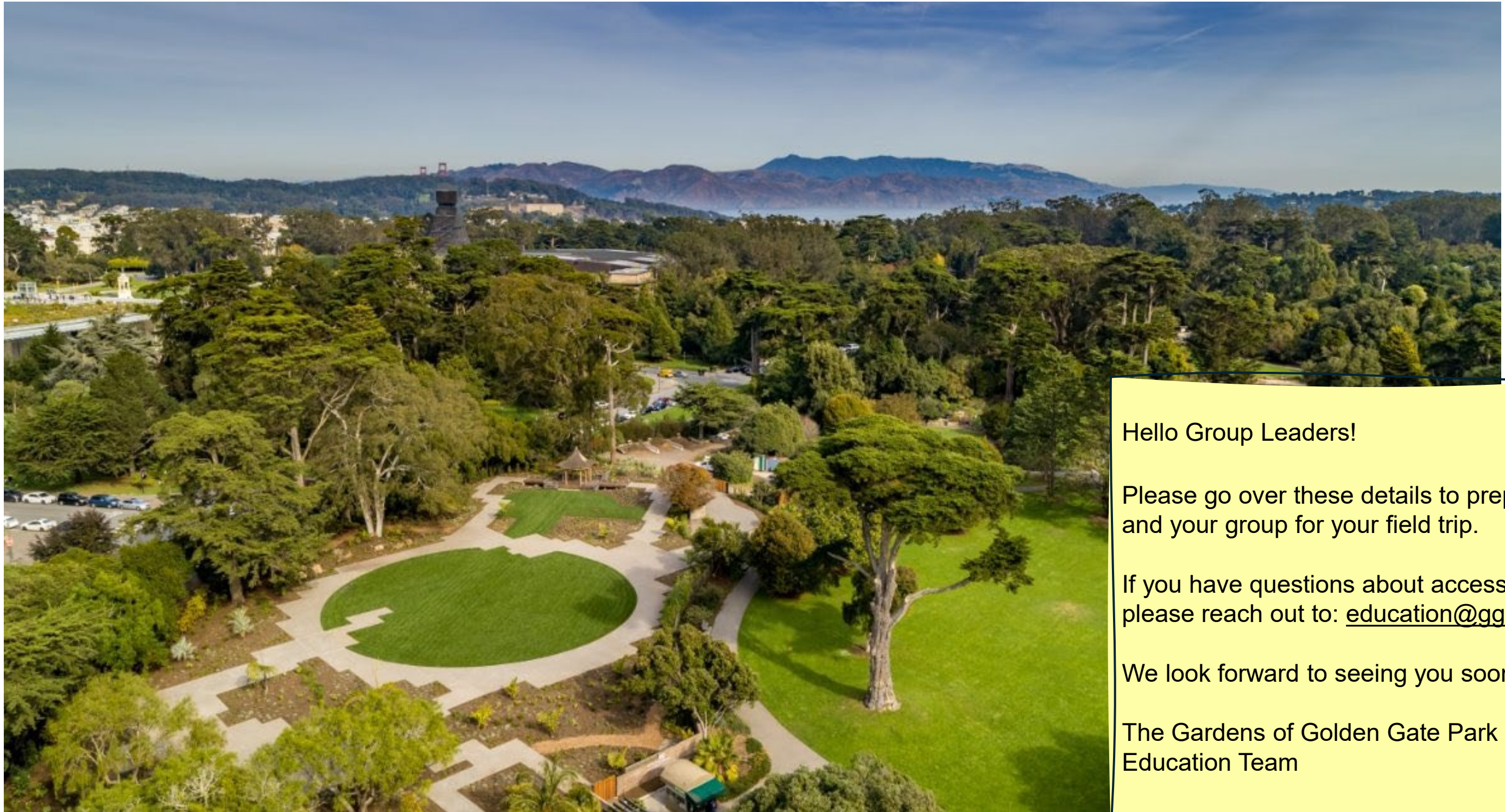


We're going to the San Francisco Botanical Garden!

A pre-visit social story for field trips



Hello Group Leaders!

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

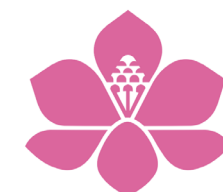
We look forward to seeing you soon!

The Gardens of Golden Gate Park
Education Team

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.

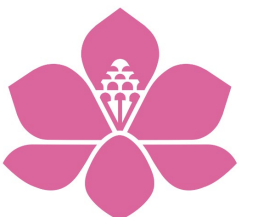
A social story is a visual story that can help people understand expectations and emotions and generate regulated responses in a variety of situations. They are a tool originally developed for children with autism but have been useful for all people entering new situations.



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We are going to the San Francisco Botanical Garden!

People come from all over the world to see this special place. This garden is home to plants from around the world and is a place for all ages to learn about plants.



Getting to the San Francisco Botanical Garden

To get there we will need to walk from wherever we parked or unloaded from a bus. The garden is all outdoors so we should plan our outfits with the weather forecast in mind.



If you are arriving on a school or charter bus, please unload at the [DeYoung Museum](#). From there it is a 2-minute walk or roll to the Friend Gate of the Botanical Garden. This is also the closest entrance to get to the Children's Garden.

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



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Group Check-in

When we are ready, our group leader will go through the gate to check in at the Entry Kiosk. We can use the stairs or the ramp to the right side of the gate.

The staff members at this desk help with check-in, first-aid, and lost-and-found. They can answer questions that we have. Staff members wear green name tags.



We can choose different pathways to explore

Some paths are more adventurous with stairs and stones, dirt and bark. Other paths are solidly paved with gentle to moderate slopes. When we are exploring, we will keep our feet on the pathways or on the lawns.



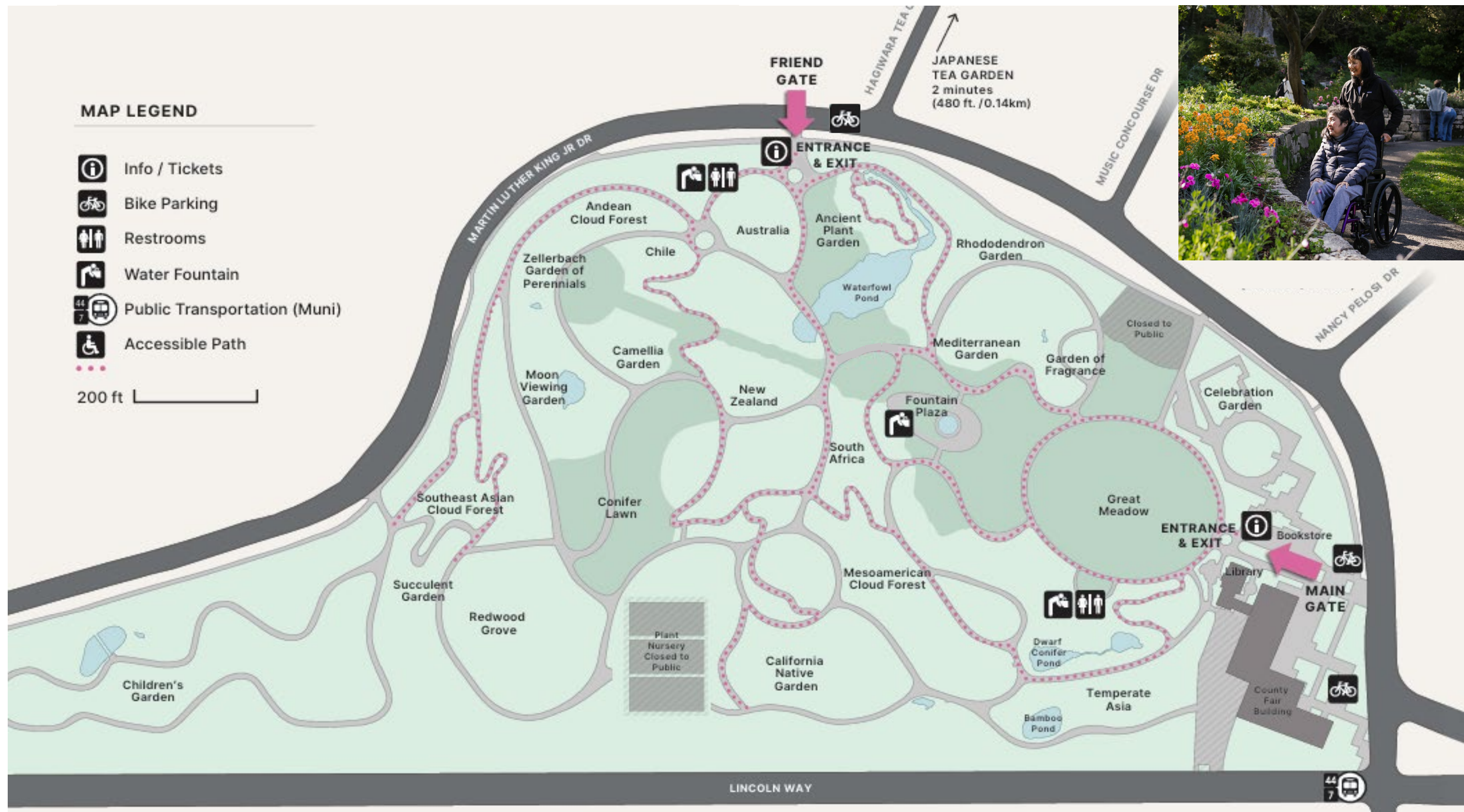
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Pathways with pink dots are wheelchair accessible

If anyone in our group uses a wheelchair or stroller, the pathways with the pink dotted lines are accessible. Other pathways are steeper.



We can visit plants from many places!

This garden is over 55-acres! It is a living museum of plants and animals. There are over 20 different garden areas to explore. Below are a few examples of places that we can explore.

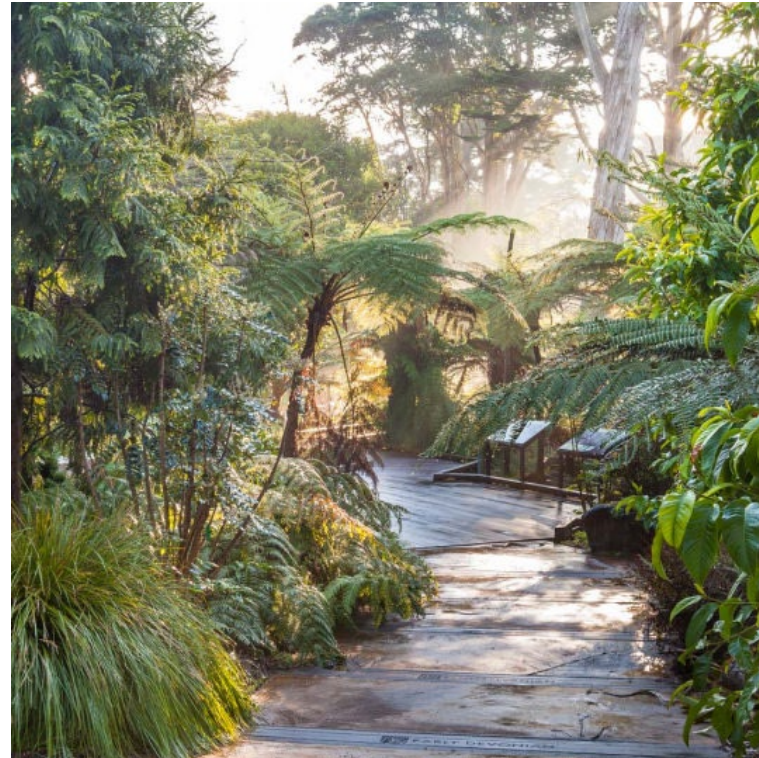
Tip for Group Leaders!

Prioritize which part of the Gardens you want your group to explore. Learn more on our website:

gggp.org/san-francisco-botanical-garden/



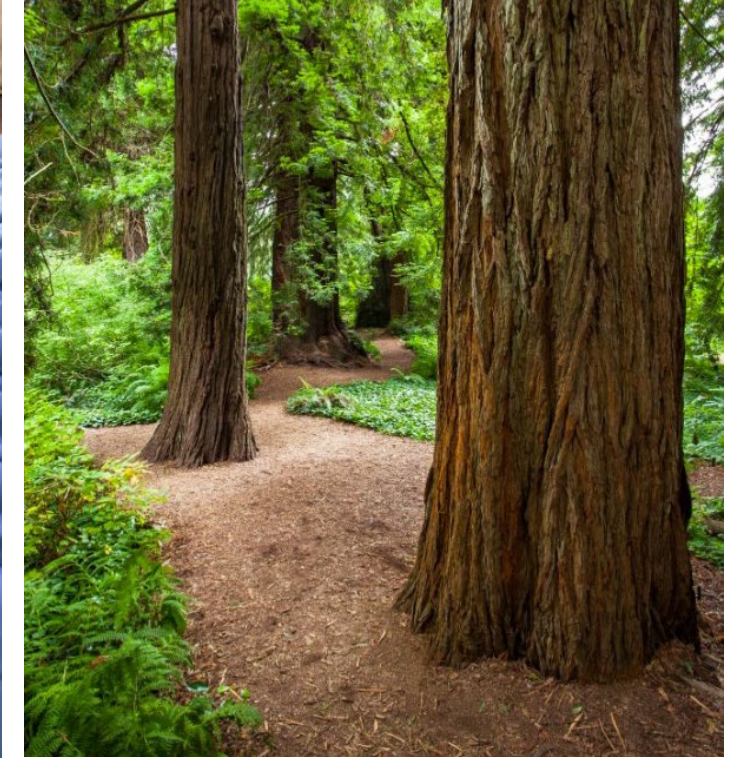
Garden of Fragrance
Gentle touching encouraged!



Ancient Plant Garden
Learn about plant evolution.



Children's Garden
Get hands-on with plants.



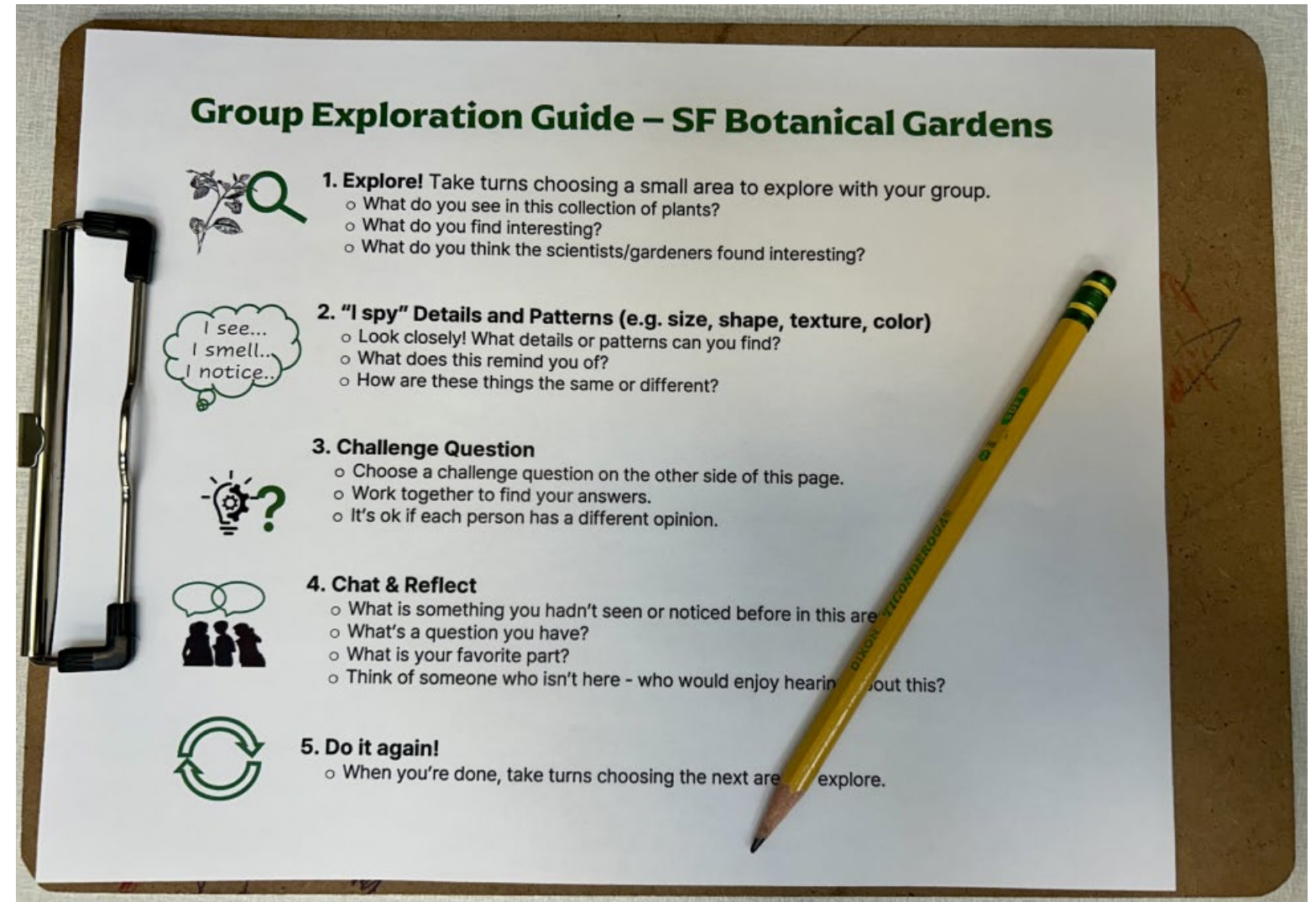
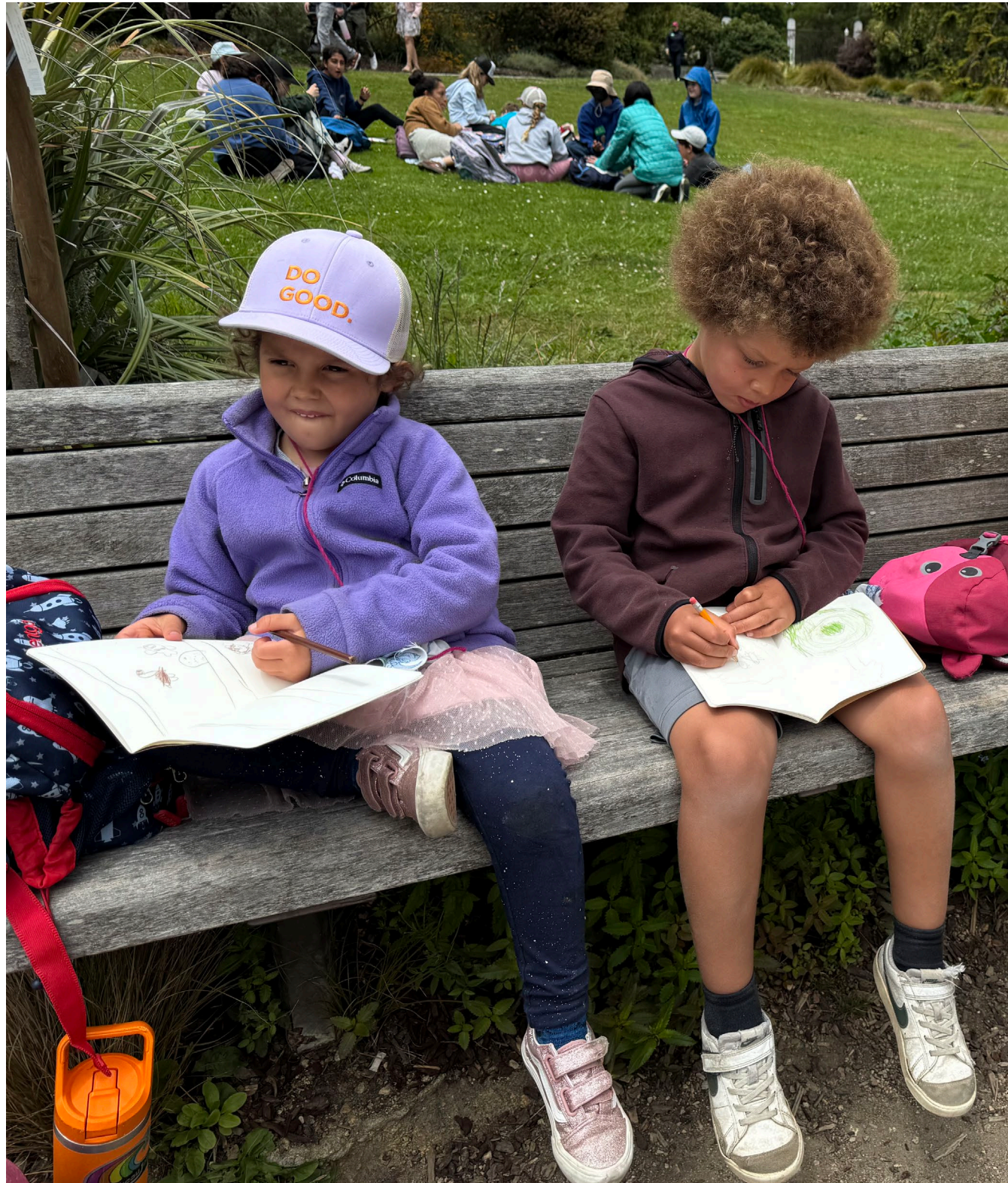
Redwoods & California Natives Garden
Meet the locals!



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Exploring the Garden

We will explore the Garden in small groups with an adult. Our group leader might have special activities planned!



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

gggp.org/field-trips



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Wherever we go in the garden, we will respect and be gentle with plants and animals.

This means that we can smell, look closely at plants, and gently touch them. If we find part of a plant on the ground, we can pick it up to examine it and then put it back.



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We will stay together

This is important because it's a big space and we don't want to get lost. If we get separated from each other, I will stay where I am and find a helpful adult. My group leader will call the Garden staff on their phone if they need help.



Lunch or Snacks

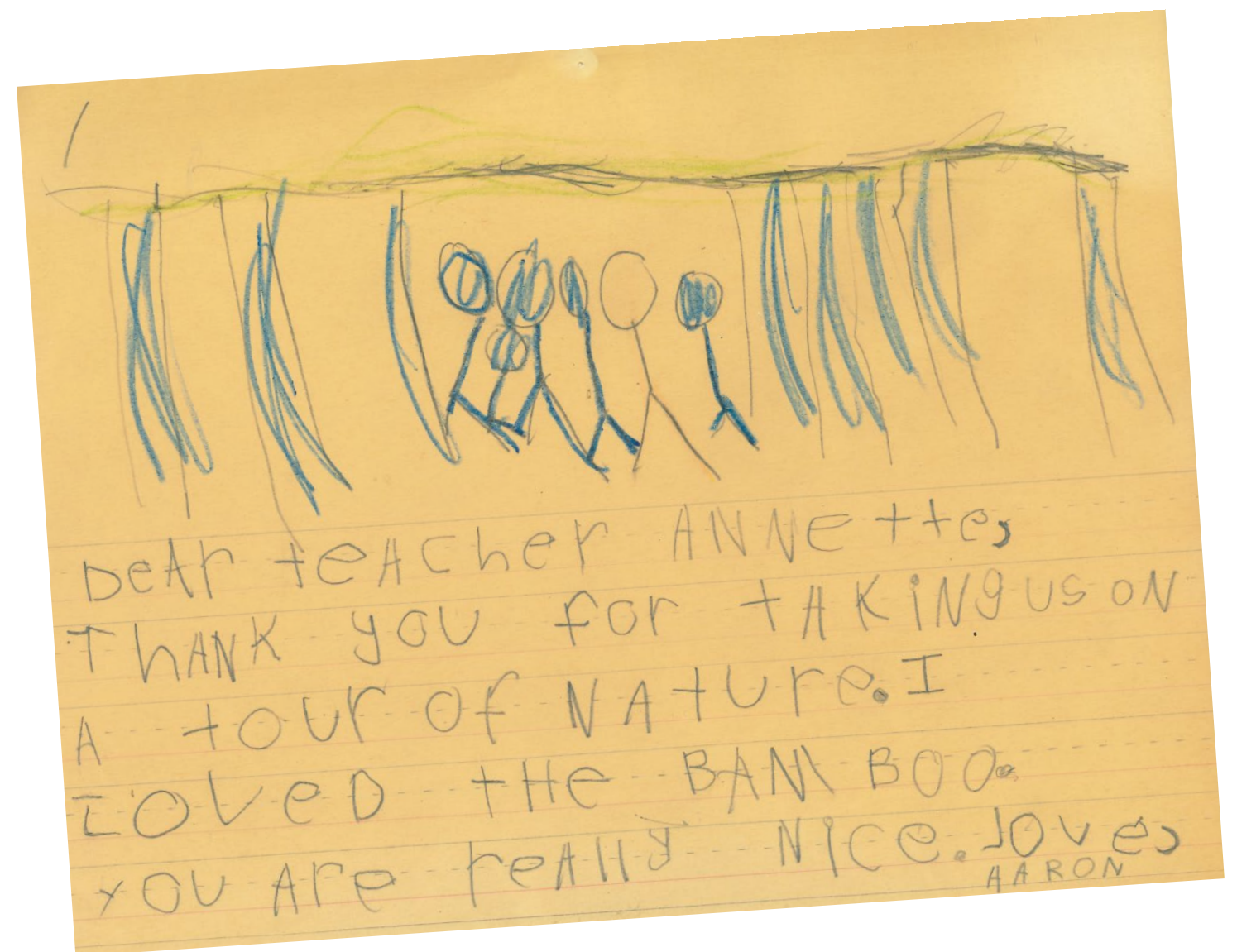
When we are hungry, we can picnic on any of the lawns or bench areas. We will pick up all of our trash, and we will not feed the wildlife.



Thank you!

Once we complete our visit, we will head out of the garden and go over the next part of our plan for the day.

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



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