



THE GREAT GARDEN ADVENTURE!

VanDusen
BOTANICAL GARDEN

Bloedel
CONSERVATORY

Vancouver
Botanical
Gardens
Association

WELCOME TO VANDUSEN, WHERE NATURE'S WONDERS LIVE TOGETHER IN HARMONY!

Get ready to experience the beauty and biodiversity of the garden, and discover the incredible stories that each leaf and bloom have to share.

So, grab your pencil and get ready to explore—there is so much more than meets the eye!



Please note: This map isn't intended for finding your way around the Garden. Please ask your grown-up to pick up a more detailed map in our Visitor Centre.

THE BALD CYPRESS TREE

Around the outskirts of Cypress Pond, you will find the Bald Cypress tree. Usually, this tree is found growing in southern North America. This tree loves to be in water or around swampy areas.

Why do the trees have "knees"?

If you look down towards the base of the tree, you will find roots growing out of the water that look like "knobby knees". These roots help the Bald Cypress breathe under water! Similar to a snorkel, the Bald Cypress knees help bring air to the roots that are completely under water. The knees also help the trees stay upright by anchoring them in the muddy ground.

How many knees
can you find on
one tree?

_____ KNEES

GIANT SEQUOIAS

Did you know that the Giant Sequoia can live for up to 3000 years? Not only can these trees live to be ancient, their bark can grow up to three feet thick!

How many "wingspans" is the circumference of the tree?

Spread your arms out wide like this and stand against the tree. Ask an adult to help mark where your right hand is, then move to the right so that your left hand lines up with where your right hand was. Continue until you've made it all the way around the tree!



THIS TREE IS _____
WINGSPANS AROUND!



STORY TIME

Take a seat near the story poles in the BC Habitat Garden, and listen to their origin stories.

The Mosquito People, 1986

Carvers: Earl and Brian Muldoe

This pole tells the origin story of mosquitos, which came from the ashes of the funeral pyre of Baboudina (top), chief of the blood-sucking mosquito people. Below him is the young woman (middle) who killed the Chief and saved her husband (bottom) and baby.



Al of the Gispudwada, 1976

Carver: Arthur Sterritt

This pole describes the origin of the Black Bear Crest of the Orca Clan. A long time ago, a man was transformed into a bear and lived among the bears for a while (bottom, bear holding human face). When he returned to his people, a kind old healer helped him become human again (top, man holding the healer). The black bears remained friends with the man and would help him if he was in trouble, so he and his descendants took the bear as their crest.

**What are your favourite animals?
Draw them here:**

THE PERENNIAL GARDEN COLOUR MATCH GAME

What does "perennial" mean?

A perennial is a type of plant that lives for more than two years. Usually, they have a dormant season where the plant will lose its leaves or die back before blooming again. If perennials are the long distance runners of the plant world, annuals are the sprinters! Annual plants complete their full life cycle in one year, and put all of their energy into producing seeds.

Can you find a plant that matches the colour of each flower in this bouquet?

(Depending on which season you are visiting the garden, some plants may be in their dormant season. Feel free to explore other areas of the garden and visitor centre to find your colour matches!)



**Record the names
of the plants here:**

THE BACKYARD BIRD GARDEN

Can you find these birds?

Draw a line to match each description to the correct bird:



Anna's Hummingbird

I have a pink throat, and can be found quickly flitting between flowers. Careful, if you blink you'll miss me!



Black-Capped Chickadee

I look like I have a black hat on my head, and my call sounds like "cheese-burger." I am the provincial bird of New Brunswick!



Spotted Towhee

I am usually spotted by my bright red eyes, and black wings with white spots. I can be found in shrubby areas with lots of undergrowth.



American Robin

I am one of the first signs of the end of winter, and I am famous for my red breast. I tend to eat worms in the morning and fruit later in the day.

Set a timer, and record how many birds you find in that amount of time.

I FOUND _____ BIRDS IN _____ MINUTES!

LOVED THIS?

Learn More

Explore our family and children's programs at vandusengarden.org/learn.

Visit

VanDusen Botanical Garden
5251 Oak St, Vancouver, BC

Bloedel Conservatory, Queen Elizabeth Park
4600 Cambie St, Vancouver, BC

Connect

Learn more about our membership, education, fundraising, and volunteer programs at vandusengarden.org.



membership@vandusen.org

About

Vancouver Botanical Gardens Association (VBGA) is a registered charity that jointly operates VanDusen Botanical Garden and Bloedel Conservatory with the Vancouver Park Board. VBGA offers membership, education, fundraising, and volunteer programs to inspire an understanding of plants and a passion for biodiversity, and encourage generations to conserve, protect, and enhance the natural world.

The Vancouver Botanical Gardens Association (VBGA) acknowledges that VanDusen Botanical Garden and Bloedel Conservatory are located on the unceded Ancestral shared lands of the *xʷməθkwəy̓əm* (Musqueam), *Skwxwú7mesh* (Squamish), and *Səlilw̓'ətəʔ/Səlilwiltulh* (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations. We are honoured to be on the lands where these Nations have lived since time immemorial, and where they continue to maintain stewardship and live in balance with nature.

Our work of promoting environmental sustainability and stewardship would not be possible without Indigenous perspectives and knowledge.

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