Dear Educator,

Welcome! Today you and your group will explore the sights, sounds, and scents of Hudson Gardens on a Nature Hunt!

- Inside your Activity Pack you will find ten clipboards with Nature Hunts leaflets and crayons to distribute to your students. The Nature Hunt is found on the front and back of the leaflet.
- A suggested route for your Nature Hunt is provided on the map below. Yellow stars indicate areas with Nature Hunt features (though many features may be encountered in multiple areas throughout The Gardens). As you follow the route and explore Hudson Gardens, have your students check off each item that they find.
- Please return the clipboards and crayons to the Activity Pack when you are done and return packs to the Welcome Center. Students may take their Nature Hunt leaflet home.

**Nature Hunt Points of Interest**

- **Conifer Grove**: Pine cones, Rabbit, Blue Spruce
- **Cascades**: Aspens
- **Songbird Garden**: Red berries, Bird eating seed, Tree with thorns, Red fuzzy seeds
- **Pumpkin Patch**: Largest pumpkin, Tall grass
- **Picnic Area**: Maple tree seed, Red leaves, Bat house, Acorns
- **Wetlands**: Duck, Yellow leaves

Turn over for more activities
Additional Suggested Activities

**Pine Cone Inspection:** Ask each student to find a pine cone and give them one minute to inspect it. Encourage your students to observe their pine cone and take mental pictures of its details and different features. After one minute, place all the pine cones in your activity pack and shake it around to mix up all the pine cones. Empty your pack onto a table or the ground and ask your students to pick out “their” pine cone using their memory. What characteristics did each student look for to tell their pine cone apart from the others?

**Leaf Study:** Have each student find a leaf on the ground (do not pick leaves from trees). A space is provided inside each Nature Hunt packet for students to create a rubbing or drawing of their leaf. To create a rubbing, place the leaf under the paper on the clipboard and very gently rub a crayon over the leaf to reveal its image. Alternatively, students can draw their leaf or trace it directly on the paper. When you are finished with your drawings, see if you can find the tree that your leaf fell from!

**Garden Memories:** Before leaving, don’t forget to ask your students to draw a picture of their favorite thing they saw at Hudson Gardens! A space is provided inside the Nature Hunt packet for drawings.

*Please return the clipboards and crayons to the Activity Pack when you are done and return packs to the Welcome Center. Students may take their Nature Hunt leaflet home.*

Thanks for visiting and come see us again soon!