



Chelsea Physic Garden Points of Interest for Children

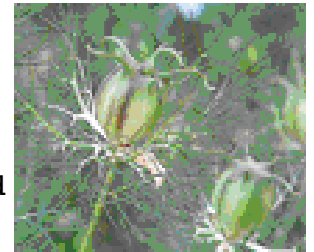


1. CARNIVOROUS PLANTS: Question – What do plants eat? The answer is that they make their own food, using sunlight, water, carbon dioxide and minerals from the soil. Carnivorous plants, which eat meat, do this as well as trapping and eating flies, moths and wasps. Some of the bigger ones have even been heard of eating baby monkeys!



2. TROPICAL CORRIDOR: Imagine you're in the rainforest. You'll find coffee, pepper plants, ginger, vanilla and the strange "Spanish Moss" which grows hanging from the ceiling and looks like long grey hair, sucking all the water it needs from the air.

3. HERBS: Here you'll see some names you may recognise from your kitchen, such as Basil and Rosemary. Rub your fingers on their leaves and have a smell.



4. VEGETABLE BED: All the common vegetables are here. There are beans, tomatoes, asparagus, carrots, leeks, onions and beetroot. Can you see them?



5. MANDRAKE: There is a lot of superstition around the mandrake. People used to think that it would scream if you pulled it up and you'd die if you heard its screams. To stay safe they would tie their dog to the mandrake and then go and hide at a safe distance. The dog would then pull it up for them. You may have heard of mandrakes from *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*.



6. STATUE OF SIR HANS SLOANE: Thank this man because he was the first to bring the recipe for milk chocolate to Britain and he kept this garden going for over 300 years!

7. WOODLAND WALK: Stroll through the woods and look at all the different leaf shapes and listen out for birds.



8. THE POND: The pond is always full of wildlife, like Water Boatmen, Damselflies, Newts, Tadpoles, Leeches and Water Snails. Kneel down, take a look and try to spot some – don't fall in though!



9. BEE HIVES: The bees have to make a million journeys to make just one jar of honey. Watch them but don't get too close!

10. MONKEY PUZZLE TREE: Guaranteed to leave any monkey puzzled! This tree is from Chile, where there aren't any monkeys...



11. SHELF LIFE: The clothes you're wearing and most of the food you eat come from plants. Take a look at plants in packaging and do try this at home!



12. COOL FERNERY: The ferns in the greenhouse are the type herbivorous dinosaurs ate. They are some of the oldest living species of plants in the world.



WARNING!
Many plants here are poisonous and can kill!
Please don't eat any of the plants or touch them and then put your fingers in your mouth! It might be the last thing you do! If you need to, wash your hands before leaving.



Map of Chelsea Physic Garden

66 Royal Hospital Road, London SW3 4HS



Warning to Adults and Children

The Chelsea Physic Garden grows some 5000 different plant taxa including collections of medicinal and Mediterranean plants some of which are toxic. Children should be supervised at all times, especially in the Tropical Corridor, Pharmaceutical Beds and Poison Bed. Members of the Umbelliferae and Euphorbiaceae families growing in the order beds can produce allergic skin reactions in sunny weather. We also keep bees which are a potential hazard. Fortune's Tank Pond and The Pond Rockery are strictly off limits for children. Any accidents should be reported to a member of staff immediately. For more information visit our website www.chelseaphysicgarden.co.uk



Scale 1:250