

## Congratulations!

You have completed this curiosity booklet! Now you have an even deeper understanding of the Edible Garden and have observed so much! We hope you keep observing and ask questions! Thank you for being such a curious explorer here at Gamble Garden.

Please be sure to continue experiencing the other four parts of the Roots and Shoots Exploration by heading to the Gamble Garden website: <https://www.gamblegarden.org/>

## Support Gamble Garden

We receive no funding from the city, state, or any other government entity. We rely on individual contributions to keep our gardens beautiful, free and open to the public every day of the year. You can support Gamble Garden by becoming a Friend (member), joining us as a volunteer, or making a donation. Gifts toward operating expenses and to the endowment fund are truly appreciated.

Please visit the website for more information:

<https://www.gamblegarden.org/support-us/overview/>



# What Wonders are at Gamble Garden?



## ROOTS AND SHOOTS EXPLORATION CURIOSITY BOOKLET

Elizabeth F. Gamble Garden

## Welcome to the Elizabeth F. Gamble Garden!

This month you will be exploring some of the many wonders in the Edible Garden. This curiosity booklet is one of the five parts to the Roots and Shoots Exploration, an adaptation of the traditional intergenerational gardening program. We hope to give the Shoots, young learners like you, and your families, a fun and safe way to continue exploring and enjoying the outdoors at Gamble Garden.

We hope you learn something new, keep plants happy by staying on the pathways leaving all plants as you found them, and keep on being curious. Have fun!

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*Please use this curiosity booklet as a guide and activity book when exploring the diverse Edible Garden.*

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Pumpkins are a type of winter squash. The variety, type, we grow is called a “Cinderella” pumpkin. As you can guess, it’s huge!

Look for other squashes growing... Can you find where any squashes are growing up, vertically?

After finding them, what are three things you notice about the squash plants growing here?

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_

These squash plants are growing on a trellis, a support made wood or metal bars to help plants climb and grow.

## Edible Flowers

Can you find any purple, pink or red flowers in the Edible Garden? These are zinnias and many people do not know they are edible! If you grow edible flowers, it is a good practice to eat only the petals. Look for any pollinators like bees or flies around the zinnias! If you see them, observe!

Practice drawing a zinnia flower:



How many different varieties of peppers do you see growing?  
Describe how they are different:

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In your experience, what are some ways you can describe how peppers taste? \_\_\_\_\_

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## Herbs

The herbs are growing all over the Edible Garden. Herbs plants can include leaves, flowers or seeds that are used for flavoring food. They are usually very fragrant and smell good! Herbs like basil are great to grow by tomatoes to keep insect pests away and healthier!

Explore for two herbs plants. If you are unsure, ask a family member for hints. Gently rub the leaves. How can you describe how each herb smells like?

Herb 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Herb 2: \_\_\_\_\_

## Squash

Squash is grown during the summer but there are two different kinds: summer and winter squash. The name tells you when the best time is to eat it!

## Tomatoes

There are many plant beds with tomato plants growing in them! How many do you count? \_\_\_\_\_

Find a tomato plant that looks special to you. Can you find and count all six plant parts? Why or why not?

ROOTS

FLOWERS

STEMS

FRUITS

LEAVES

SEEDS

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Observing your special tomato plant, what is one thing you notice about the...

- stem?

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- flowers?

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- fruits?

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Fun Fact: Did you know most tomatoes were originally mostly yellow and orange in color when ripe than red? After centuries of growing and since many people liked the red color, many tomatoes today are red. Of course, there are still many colors and stripes of all kinds around!

Look for two different tomato fruits, each from different plants. Observing with your eyes, sketch the two fruits. You can color them at home. Give each fruit a unique name too based off what you noticed about them.

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\_\_\_\_\_

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What are two ways the fruits are similar?

1) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What are two ways the fruits are different?

1) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Beans

How many different varieties, or types, of beans can you count growing in the garden? \_\_\_\_\_

Look for the noodle bean! Hint: it looks like noodles!

Leaving the bean on the plant, is one bean longer or shorter than your arm? How long do you think it is?

\_\_\_\_\_

Why do you think a bean want to have such long beans for? Why did nature give it a long bean? How could it help or make it harder for the plant to survive by having such long beans? \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Peppers

Do you know peppers by any other name? If so, write it down. If not, ask a family member and think together.

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