

Our Visit to the Royal Botanic Gardens Food Forest



We are going to visit the Royal Botanic Gardens Victoria.

We can also call it the Botanic Gardens.

The Botanic Gardens is a beautiful, large garden near the city of Melbourne.

It has many plants from all around the world.



We will look for the meeting place when we arrive at the Botanic Gardens.

A Learning Facilitator will greet us.



There is a quiet, shady place to have a snack and a drink.

The accessible toilets are nearby too.



My teacher and the Learning Facilitator will help me to stay safe at the Gardens.



We are going to explore the Gardens and discover plants which provide us with food.
We can touch and smell the plants in the Kitchen Garden.



We can look high and low to find the plants.

Can you see bananas growing on this plant?

Can you see the edible flower too?



The Learning Facilitator will help us to harvest some food plants.

We can take the plants back to school and taste the plants.

Perhaps we can cook with the plants.



We will look for the
compost bay.

Fungi, bacteria and worms
help this garden waste turn
back into soil for healthy
plants to grow.



We will look for worms in the worm farms.

Worms recycle our food scraps and make worm castings (worm poo).

The castings provide food or nutrients for plants to grow.



We can discover more food plants as we explore the Children's Garden.

We can tap and gently shake the bamboo. It feels smooth and cold.

Do you eat bamboo shoots?



We will see lomandra with long, thin leaves.

Can you see spikes on the plant? We will touch the plant gently.

Aboriginal people ground the seeds of lomandra to make flour.



We can feel the trunk of the very tall Chilean wine palm.

We may find a coquito fallen to the ground. Coquitos are the smallest coconuts in the world.



We will look for Bunya Bunya.

The leaves are spikey so we will touch them gently.

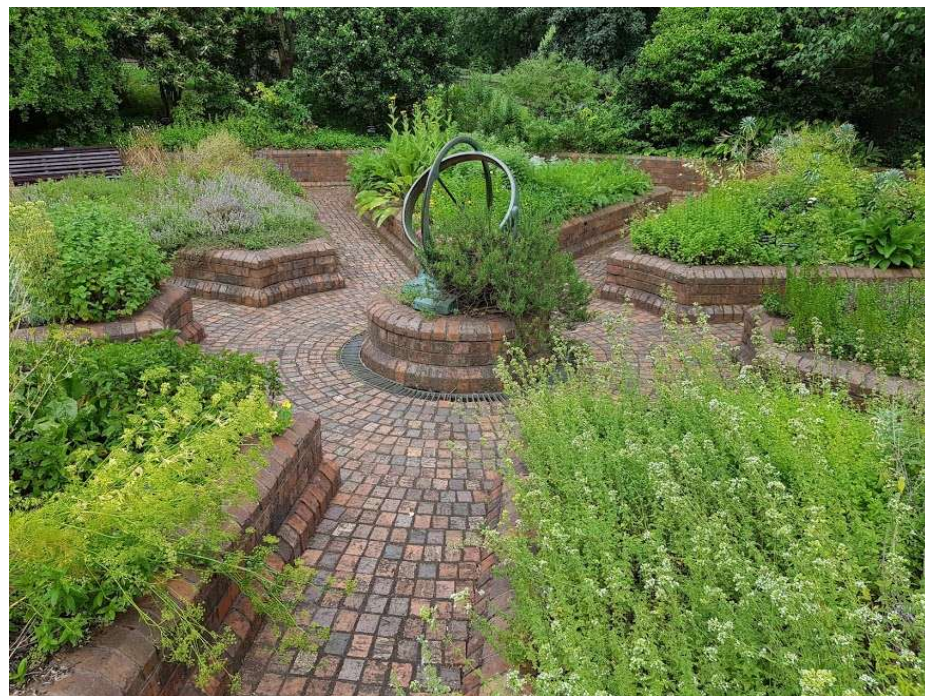
The seeds provided food for Aboriginal people.



We can walk to the Herb Garden or Sensory Garden and discover plants used for food, medicine and perfume.

We can rub the leaves to release the scents.

In the Herb Garden there are signs with symbols next to the plant . Can you find a cooking herb? What country does the plant come from?



As we explore the Gardens we must remember to;

- walk, not run
- stay on the paths or grass



We can find quiet places to rest.



There are signs in the Garden to help us find our way.



We will walk back to our quiet space for lunch.

There are so many food plants to discover at the Gardens.

We will have fun exploring the Botanic Gardens.



Additional notes:

- The Children's Garden is closed in term 3 so most of the program will be held in the larger Garden.
- The Social Script is a general guide to some of the sensory experiences and language children will encounter at the Gardens.
- Each of our programs will be adapted to the age and developmental stage of children. Please discuss your children's interests and needs with our Learning Facilitator.

We look forward to welcoming you at the Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne.

