

# DES MOINES BOTANICAL GARDENS SCAVENGER HUNT

Botany is the scientific study of plants. Botanists help preserve natural resources, produce life-saving medications for humans and animals, pursue cleaner fuel sources, increase air and water quality, and study climate change. If you enjoy studying or appreciating plants, consider visiting the Des Moines Botanical Gardens during normal business operational hours.

## BEFORE YOU GET STARTED

**Recommended Ages:** Grades 4-8

**Estimated Time:** 20 – 40 minutes

**Stuff you'll need:** A computer or tablet with internet connection.

**Caregivers should consider:** There is always risk when youth are online. Caregivers may choose to review house rules of internet use or complete the activity along with their girl. All the answers to the scavenger hunt can be found on one site [dmbotanicalgarden.com](http://dmbotanicalgarden.com).

### BADGE OR JOURNEY STEPS COMPLETED

Junior Flowers Badge: Steps 1, 2, 3, & 4

Junior Gardener Badge: Steps 1, 2, & 3

Cadette Trees Badge: Step 1

## THE FUN PART

1. With a caregiver's permission, visit [dmbotanicalgarden.com](http://dmbotanicalgarden.com)
2. Navigate around this website (only) to find the answers to the scavenger hunt questions below!  
Hint: Find all the answers under the "Gardens" tab.
  - Name three flowers that can be found in the Botanical Garden in April.
  - Why does the Titan arum (Corpse Flower) smell so bad?
  - How many species of orchids are there?
  - What is the name of the rainbow-colored sculpture at the Des Moines Botanical Garden?
  - The Water Garden was designed to visually connect with which Des Moines feature?
  - How old is the oldest Bonsai tree in the collection?
  - Why kind of atmosphere does the geodesic-domed conservatory provide for the plants?
  - Why do you think that sometimes one type of plant is featured together, as in the orchid collection, bonsai collection, and rose garden?
  - What is one thing you notice about your favorite garden at the Des Moines Botanical Garden?
  - What are the regular business hours of the Des Moines Botanical Garden?
3. Share your answers with a caregiver and have a conversation about garden design.
4. Way to go! You did it! Share on social media with your caregiver's permission. Use the hashtag #GSGIDIY

