Our Visit to Naples Botanical Garden
Areas where I may have to wait will be indicated by this symbol:

Areas where it is OK to touch will be indicated by this symbol:

Areas where it is not OK to touch will be indicated by this symbol:

I will see this symbol for areas where it is OK to walk:

I will see this symbol for areas where it is not OK to walk:

What do these symbols mean?
Let’s review the rules of the Garden. I will not bring food into the Garden today. We will leave our food at home or in the car.
I will see many beautiful plants and flowers at the Garden. It is okay to look and touch, but it is not okay to pick plants. This will keep me safe and the plants safe!
I will also not pick-up or take flowers, seeds, nuts, or other things that fall from plants onto the ground.
We may see, but we cannot touch garden tools or objects. When I am at the Garden, I might sometimes hear loud noises from lawnmowers or leaf blowers. If the noise bothers me, I can cover my ears.
If we see wildlife, we will stay away so that we will be safe and the animals will be safe too. What is wildlife? Wildlife are the creatures that live in nature. They are not pets. Some examples are snakes, alligators, ducks, tortoises, birds, and deer.
We might see tour groups during our visit, or we might go on a tour! We will be respectful by being quiet when the tour guide is talking. I might have to wait to walk if there is a tour blocking a path.
If I get lost or have any questions, I can talk with an employee or volunteer. I will look for people in uniforms with nametags.
Some employees wear special clothes for their jobs which might look different. However, all will have the Garden’s logo on their uniform.
If we get lost, there are signs to direct us. There are also maps on some of these signs.
Now it’s time to begin! Today, I get to visit Naples Botanical Garden. We will enjoy the day outside.
We will enter the Garden through the entrance of the Visitor Center. We will pass through Kathryn’s Garden before purchasing our tickets.
If there is a sign with this logo at the entrance, it means that dogs are allowed in the Garden for a short time today.
If it’s a Dog Walk day, dogs are kept on leashes and are not allowed in the Children’s Garden, Butterfly House, or in buildings. I will not approach a dog, but I can admire it from a distance.
We may have to wait in line to buy our tickets. If so, we will wait our turn. We might wait for a short time, or wait for a long time. When we pay, we will get our tickets and a map.
We will look at the map and decide where we will go. We might not get to see everything in one visit, but we will enjoy seeing the Garden.
The dotted purple lines show paved walking trails, and the dotted orange lines show unpaved trails.
GARDEN INFORMATION

Hours: April and May, open daily 9am-5pm; 8am-5pm on Tuesdays. June-August, open Tuesday-Sunday 8am-4pm; closed Mondays. Garden will close for dangerous weather conditions; no refunds or rain checks for inclement weather.

Food & Drink: April and May, Fogg Café is open every day. June-August, Fogg Café is open Friday-Sunday and grab-and-go lunch items are available Tuesday-Thursday in the Berger Shop in the Garden. No coolers or outside food permitted.

Photo Disclaimer: During your visit, you or members of your party may be filmed, videotaped, and/or photographed by a Garden employee, contract photographer, or the media. Attendance at the Garden serves as permission for the use of your image, or the image of people in your party, by the Garden or its designers.

Access: The Garden is wheelchair accessible; wheelchairs are available on-site for guest use offered at no charge, on a first-come, first-served basis.

Scooter Rentals: Available for a fee to guests who need mobility assistance on a first-come, first-served basis.

Photography: Professional photography allowed by appointment only. Fees may apply. No drones permitted. Please call 239.643.7275 for more information.

4820 Bayshore Drive | Naples, FL 34112
239.643.7275 | 877.433.1874
NAPLESGARDEN.ORG

Thank you for visiting!
Restrooms

We might need to use the restroom while we are at the Garden. They will be marked on the map with this symbol:
If we plan to eat at the Garden, we can look at the map to find the Fogg Café (#15).
Water

We will need to drink lots of water today at the Garden. Water fountains will be marked on the map with this symbol.
Quiet Spaces

There are many peaceful places which are good to visit if I need a break from experiencing the excitement of the Garden.
During our visit, we will see many signs that tell us about the plants.

**Common Name** = Nickname

**Scientific Name** = Full name given by a scientist

**Family** = Similar to a last name, which you might share with your siblings

**Origin** = Hometown, or where it came from in the wild
On our way into the Garden, we will walk past Irma’s Garden, which has lots of colorful plants. If we need to use the restroom or get a drink of water, we can do so here before we start our visit.
I will soon come to the Information Station. Volunteers wearing green aprons, like these three women, are here to give you information about the gardens. Feel free to say hello and ask questions!
I might get to go into the Children’s Garden today. I might not. If not today, maybe we will go next time.
These are the rules for the Children’s Garden. What does this sign say?
In hot weather, I might play in the water fountain. I might not. If not today, maybe next time.
I will see the rules for the water play area on this sign. What does this sign say?
I can climb in the tree house and fire tower in the Children’s Garden. I will use my hands and feet to climb.
I can play in the sand in this area.
I might have to wait my turn to use the beach toys.
If an adult says it’s okay, I can carefully walk across the flat rocks in the Cypress Swamp.
I can climb on this net and crawl. I may have to wait my turn. I will use my hands and feet, as if I were a spider in a web!
I will walk, stay on paths, and not run. The paths might be slippery if they are wet!
I might have to wait if there are tours and programs happening.
I will not climb on the rocks where I see this sign.
Touching plants is okay and safe in the Children’s Garden.
I can play in this house. If there are other kids nearby, maybe I can invite them to play with me!
I might go into the Butterfly House. I might not today. If I go in, I may have to wait my turn to see the butterflies. I may have to walk slowly and stop sometimes.
We will close the doors after we walk into the Butterfly House.
These are the rules for the Butterfly House. What does this sign say?
We can look, but we will not chase or touch the butterflies, caterpillars, or chrysalises.
We can look, but we will not pick flowers. These plants and flowers are food and homes for hungry caterpillars and butterflies. Do you see a butterfly getting a snack?
The Brazilian Garden is full of beautiful bromeliads and other plants which have interesting shapes and textures. What colors do you see?
We will see a beautiful, huge waterfall. It can get very loud, so I can cover my ears if I need to.
We will be careful on the path and will not play or step in the water.
The Caribbean Garden’s main path is paved, while some paths are made out of shells. They might make a crunching sound underneath my feet.
The lawn is a great place to explore and get out some energy!
I can look at the plants, but I will remember not to touch or take the plants. Can you see how bananas grow?
The bridges over the River of Grass make a thumping sound as we walk over them. Listen as the wind blows through the blades of grass! Feel the breeze? We might hear some bug songs here.
The Florida Garden has winding paths that lead uphill to a special chickee hut which looks out over the Natural Areas.
There is a waterfall, which might be loud. I can look, but I will not climb on the rocks.
We can enjoy looking at water in the ponds, waterfalls, and other areas, but we cannot drink or go into the water.
The Idea Garden gives visitors good ideas for how to grow plants in Florida. Can you find vegetables growing here?
In the Enabling Garden, we can touch and smell all of the plants. We can gently feel the plants to find out if they are soft or rough.
We can thank the people who are helping care for the plants.
We can walk the labyrinth and gently tap the gong with the mallet provided.

Labyrinth = a big maze
Gong = rings like a big bell
Mallet = a big drum stick
The Asian Garden has lots of bamboo which make creaking sounds in the wind. Can you hear it?
We can sit and rest in the shade of the Thai Pavilion if we need a break.
We can look at these statues, but we can’t walk past the chain to the ruins.
If an adult says it is okay, I can carefully walk on these stones. I will not jump into the water here.
Boardwalks in the Water Garden might be slippery if they are wet.
Sometimes a gardener will be working with the plants that grow in the water. We can wave to the gardener, but cannot go in the water.
The Orchid Garden is full of beautiful flowers. Look up in the trees and down at the ground to find them!
I can look at and smell the orchids, but I will not touch them. Many of the flowers smell really nice!
I might get to go to the Florida Uplands Preserve. I might not. If not today, maybe we will go next time.
Before I get to the Florida Uplands Preserve, I have to stop and look both ways for golf carts before crossing the service path.
There are many plants and wildlife to see in the Florida Uplands Preserve. I may not touch the wildlife or the plants.
The path will change from sandy clay to wooden planks as we enter the Ghost Orchid Boardwalk.
On the Ghost Orchid Boardwalk I may see wildlife. I may not. Can you see any birds?
I may see special cameras along the path. These take pictures of wildlife in their natural habitat.
There may be low-hanging branches on the Uplands Trail that I may need to walk around.
There may also be sticks or stumps on the Uplands Trail that I need to carefully step over.
On the Upland’s Trail, I can follow the wooden posts to help me stay on the trail.
I may see signs that say, “Restoration in Process.” This means that I may not walk in that area because it is growing new plants.
If I get tired, I can sit and rest in the shade of the chickee hut.
I might get to walk on the Lake Trail. I will stay on the paved path and will not go near the water.
This sign says we must be careful and not feed or bother alligators.
If I get tired, I can sit and rest in the shade at the Birding Tower.
We might eat food at the Fogg Café today, we might not. Either way, it will be okay.
If we eat at the Fogg Café, we may have to wait in line to order. We will choose to eat either outside or inside.
When we finish eating, we can place our trash in the trash cans. We will put water bottles or soda cans in the bins that say “RECYCLE.” I will help to keep the Garden clean!
When it is time to go, we will walk back to the Visitor Center and exit the Garden. Maybe we will shop for gifts in the Garden Shop. If we can’t shop today, maybe we can go another time.
Many of the objects in the Garden Shop are breakable. We may look at them, but not pick them up, unless an adult tells us it’s okay.
Some objects like books and t-shirts are not fragile. If an adult says it’s okay, I may touch these and pick them up.
On behalf of Donna McGinnis, President and CEO of Naples Botanical Garden, we hope you enjoy your visit!
Naples Botanical Garden has collaborated with the Center For Autism & Related Disabilities at the University of South Florida to provide this pre-visit tool.

A special thanks to Naples Botanical Garden Intern, Donna Street, as well as to student editors Marissa Murray, Lauren Oster and Hanna Jauregui.

Thank you to photographers Catherine Coons, Nick Larghi, and Paul Osborn.