



Mission: Plant-Possible

Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to find all of the different plant species below located around your Akron Zoo. Bring your completed scavenger hunt form to the office located in the Barnhardt Family Welcome Center and receive your passport stamp.

Turn your book into the receptionist to be entered into a drawing.

The more stamps you have, the more chances you have to win a prize!

1. This is a deciduous shrub native to the southeastern United States. It typically features arching branches and glossy, green leaves that turn a vibrant yellow-orange in the fall. In late spring to early summer, it produces fragrant white flowers arranged in slender, bottlebrush-like spikes, attracting various pollinators. It thrives in moist environments and is often used in landscaping for its ornamental value and ability to control erosion.

Location: Legends of the Wild _____

2. The middle of this plant is spiky, and cone shaped, surrounded by elongated petals. While flowering, it is a great resource for our pollinators such as bees and butterflies. If left up after flowering, birds will use the seeds from the middle of the plant as a food resource.

Location: Legends of the Wild _____

3. This tree is a deciduous tree native to the eastern United States. It is known for its large, edible fruit, which has a creamy texture and a flavor reminiscent of banana and mango. The tree features distinctive broad leaves and can grow up to 30 feet tall. These trees are also unique for being the only member of the custard apple family that thrives in temperate climates, making them an interesting addition to gardens and orchards.

Location: Legends of the Wild _____

4. This deciduous tree native to northeastern North America, characterized by its distinctive white, chalky bark that peels in large strips. This tree typically grows between 20 to 30 feet in height and has a narrow, pyramidal shape, making it an attractive addition to landscapes. It thrives in poor, sandy soils and often colonizes disturbed areas, playing a crucial role in soil stabilization and habitat restoration.

Location: Carousel Plaza _____

5. This is a deciduous tree native to the central and eastern United States, primarily found in Kentucky. Notable for its distinctive, large, compound leaves, it can grow up to 60 feet tall and has a broad, spreading canopy. The tree produces unique, large seed pods that contain seeds historically used as a coffee substitute during the Civil War era. Its durable wood is valued for furniture and flooring, making it an important species both ecologically and economically.

Location: Carousel Plaza

6. Native to the Americas, these flowers are popular in gardens for their ability to attract pollinators and deter pests. They are often used in cultural and religious ceremonies, particularly in Indian traditions where they symbolize beauty and purity. Additionally, they have medicinal properties and have been used in traditional herbal remedies for various ailments.

Location: Wild Asia

7. This species is known for its dense and upright growth habit, making it an excellent choice for privacy screens and garden accents. They thrive in a range of climates, typically favoring cooler environments, and can tolerate light shade, which allows them to flourish in diverse garden settings. With their elegant foliage and graceful arching stems, they provide visual interest throughout the year.

Location: Wild Asia

8. This genus of flowering plants is known for their vibrant yellow blooms, which typically emerge in late summer and fall. These perennial plants are often found in meadows, fields, and along roadsides across North America. While they are sometimes mistakenly blamed for hay fever, it is not allergenic; rather, it blooms concurrently with ragweed, which is a common allergen.

Location: Wild Prairie

9. This is a majestic conifer native to Japan, known for its graceful form and aromatic properties. This evergreen tree can grow up to 75 feet tall and features dense clusters of small, scale-like leaves that create a shimmering green effect. It is prized in landscaping for its architectural beauty and is also used in traditional Japanese temples and baths due to its natural resistance to decay and insects.

Location: Wild Prairie

10. This is a genus of flowering plants in the buttercup family, known for its stunning and diverse blooms that can vary in color, size, and shape. These climbing vines are commonly used in gardens to cover trellises, walls, and fences, adding vertical interest to landscapes. Many species of this plant are hardy and can thrive in a range of climates, making them popular among gardeners.

Location: Wild Prairie _____

11. These are a popular and hardy variety of landscape roses known for their vibrant blooms and disease resistance. They bloom continuously from spring to frost, offering a bright array of colors including red, pink, and yellow. These low-maintenance shrubs require minimal pruning and are ideal for gardeners seeking beautiful flowers without extensive care.

Location: Gardens _____

12. This is a vibrant perennial plant that produces striking, daisy-like flowers in rich hues of yellow, orange, and red, often attracting pollinators such as bees and butterflies. Native to North America, they thrive in sunny gardens and is known for its ability to tolerate a variety of soil types. Additionally, this hardy plant blooms from midsummer to early fall, providing a splash of color in late-season gardens.

Locations: Gardens _____

13. This is a deciduous tree native to the eastern United States, known for its star-shaped leaves that exhibit vibrant fall colors ranging from yellow to purple. It can grow up to 100 feet tall and has a straight trunk with a pyramidal crown, providing an excellent shade canopy. Its wood is valued for its strength and is commonly used in furniture and cabinetry. Additionally, the tree's aromatic resin, known as storax, has historically been used in perfumes and traditional medicine.

Location: Grizzly Ridge _____

14. This tree, belonging to the genus *Platanus*, is known for its distinctive peeling bark and broad, lobed leaves. These trees can grow to impressive heights, often reaching up to 100 feet, and can live for several hundred years. They produce large, round seed balls that can be a food source for various wildlife. Additionally, the sycamore has significant cultural and historical relevance, frequently appearing in literature and as a symbol of strength and resilience.

Location: Big Hill _____

15. This deciduous tree can grow up to 30-70 feet tall, offering a spacious, spreading canopy that provides dappled shade. The tree produces small, fragrant yellow-green flowers in the spring, followed by long, twisted seed pods that can attract wildlife. It is prized for its adaptability to various soil types and urban conditions, making it a popular choice for landscaping and reforestation efforts.

Location: Legends of the Wild _____

