

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN

Self-Guided Visit: *Nature Scavenger Hunt*



GROUP LEADER GUIDE

Welcome to The New York Botanical Garden! The Garden covers an amazing 250 acres in the heart of the Bronx. This **Nature Scavenger Hunt** is to direct you and your group through an interesting, fun, and educational self-guided experience through the Forest and the Mitsubishi Wild Wetland Trail.

Follow the instructions below to get from place to place, and use your School Group Map and the directional signs posted throughout the grounds to aid you. You might want to highlight your route on your map as you go. Estimated walking times between each destination point are noted.

The Forest Trail has moderate slopes throughout. Please come prepared with appropriate foot wear.

Have fun!

1. After you check in at the School Group Check-In booth, encourage your group to use the restrooms and water fountains before you begin your journey.

2. Follow the signs to the **Clay Family Picnic Pavilions**, stay to the left on the paved pathway and walk past the picnic pavilions. They will be on your right (*estimated walking time is 2 minutes*). You can stop here for

lunch at this point, or at the conclusion of your self-guided visit.

3. Stay on the left path where the trail forks, and follow the **Mitsubishi Wild Wetland Trail** and continue walking along this path to the end.

4. Walk straight, crossing the main paved road, to the entrance of the **Forest Trail**. There is a map of the Botanical Garden marking this entrance point.

5. Walk along the **Forest Trail** (stay straight on the main trail). Be sure to pause at the base of the stone steps to look at the Bronx River below, the only freshwater river in New York City.

6. At the base of steps, turn right on the trail (without crossing **Hester Bridge**). Follow the trail to the end, exiting the Forest (*estimated*

walking time is 30 minutes). As you make your way along the trail, help your group complete the **Into the Woods** activity sheets described below.

7. Make a left onto the main paved road (**Azalea Way**) and follow this to the three way intersection. Turn right and follow the sign for **Daffodil Hill Way**. Follow this main road back up to the **School Group Exit**, the beginning of your journey! (*Estimated walking time about 10 minutes*). Restrooms and the **Clay Family Picnic Pavilions** are in this vicinity as well.

