

Arnold Arboretum Photo Hunt

Teacher Guide

Welcome to the Arnold Arboretum's Photo Hunt. We are pleased to offer youth groups an opportunity to explore and learn about this special landscape in the city of Boston. This tour will guide your group on a beautiful walk to see a variety of interesting plants. It can be done as a loop beginning and ending at the Hunnewell Building Visitor Center. It would also work well with a start and end point at the Forest Hills gate, which is a five-minute walk from the Forest Hills Station.

In this tour, students/youth use a map with clues to find ten plants. They use a cell phone camera or digital camera to photograph the plant and its label. To begin, break larger groups into teams; small groups can do the hunt as a single team. If you have multiple teams, we recommend sending the groups in opposite directions on the map loop so they are more spread out.

Give each team a Photo Hunt hand-out. One side includes a brief paragraph about the Arboretum and information about the hunt, as well as clues to find the plants. All of the plants on this hunt are located close to the roads. The clue includes information that will help to locate the plant through an underlined/ bold word (**bark**, **leaf**, **flower**, **label**). The underlined word is the part of the plant or other identifier that should be photographed. On the other side of the hand-out is a map with a highlighted loop route and numbers in the general area where the hunt's plants will be found. A list of plants with their scientific and common names is next to the map. There is also a copy of a plant label, called an accession tag. This will be the definitive way to identify any of the plants on the hunt. You could have students photograph the tag to have an absolute confirmation for the plant.

One person per team can take the photo; however, to get the most from this learning experience every person on the team should participate in locating the plant. When the hunt is complete, you check their photos using the attached Guide to see if the students have found the correct plant. To make the hunt a challenge, do not show these photos to your students!

You can make this a competition—the first team back with all the correct plants could win a small prize—or just a fun hunt.

The Arnold Arboretum Photo Hunt—August

1. *Stewartia pseudocamellia*
Japanese stewartia



6. *Albizia julibrissin*
Silk tree



2. *Liriodendron tulipifera*
Tulip tree



7. *Sassafras albidum*
Sassafras



3. *Cotinus obovatus* OR *Cotinus coggygria*
Smokebush



8. *Acer griseum*
Paperbark maple



4. *Koelreuteria paniculata*
Goldenrain tree



9. *Clematis* spp.
Clematis



5. *Rosa* 'Bucbi'
Carefree Beauty



10. *Chamaecyparis obtusa* 'Chabo-hiba'
Hinoki false cypress



Please give us feedback! Email arbweb@arnarb.harvard.edu