Dear Chaperone: Use these activities to add focus and fun as you guide your students around Rory Meyers Children's Adventure Garden. Below you will find a fact, something to find, and questions to discuss as a team. Have fun!

The sun is the star of the show and the center of our solar system. On Earth, we can use the sun to help determine the cardinal directions.

Find a compass on the ground.

What direction is the sun right now? What direction will the sun set? Pick a direction on the compass and head that way.

Natural resources are materials we use from nature to create things we need. Air, water, plants, and animals are some of our natural resources.

Find three natural resources.

What are some natural resources that you used last week? Did your friends use the same or different resources?

Water is not only important to us, but also responsible for changing the surface of the Earth. Moving water can carve out valleys, canyons, and caves.

Find a landform that could have been created by moving water.

What landform causes rapid changes to the Earth's surface through an explosive, eruption? What other rapid changes happen on the Earth's surface?

Energy is the ability to do work. It comes in many different forms, such as thermal, mechanical, light, and sound.

Find two things that use light energy.

If you were an energy detective, could you find an example of all four forms of energy? Can you create sound energy? Scientist use the term metamorphosis to describe a series of physical changes some animals go through to become adults.

Find a living thing that goes through metamorphosis.

What changes have you been through?
Do you still look like a baby?
Do you eat the same food you did as a toddler?

Animals have 4 basic needs: Food, water, shelter, and air. A good habitat will provide all to an animal.

Find the wetlands trail and pick an animal.

What physical characteristics does this animals have? How do these help the animal survive in their habitat?

Adaptations help living things survive in their habitat. Cacti have roots near the soils surface to soak up rain water quickly before it evaporates in the hot desert.

Find a plant with thorns, spikes, or spines.

If you were an aquatic plant, what adaptations would you want to have to help you survive in a wet habitat?

As seasons change, so does the weather.

Meteorologist use many different tools to
investigate weather patterns.

Find a tool used to measure weather patterns.

What patterns do you observe as seasons change? Do your activities change with the weather? Do animals or plants change with the season?

White Rock Lake is an environment for many living and non-living things. Check out the observation tower for a great view of the lake. Can you spot any wildlife? Do you think they are producers or consumers? What non-living things do you observe?