

Outdoor Art Maker



Marjorie Merriweather Post, who once lived at Hillwood, surrounded herself with art, both indoors and outdoors. Explore Hillwood's gardens and use what you see and hear to create your own nature-inspired art.

How to Earn Your *Outdoor Art Maker* Badge:

- Complete all the "Try This!" activities in this booklet.
- Use a Hillwood map to find locations mentioned.
- Mark the checkbox next to activities you've completed.
- Show your troop leader your completed packet. Your troop leader can purchase Outdoor Art Maker badges from the Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital.

Step 1 — See the colors of nature: Make colorful art outdoors

Try This!

Check here when you complete this step.



IN THE CUTTING GARDEN

Walk through Hillwood's cutting garden to see flowers blooming.

How many different color flowers can you find? What colors do you see?



IN THE C.W. POST TENT

Pick up an art kit to create colorful pressed flower art, inspired by the flowers you see.

Follow the step-by-step instructions included in the art kit to make your flower pin and flower suncatcher.

Step 2 — Hear the sounds of nature: Search for sounds in nature

Try This!

Check here when you complete this step.



IN THE JAPANESE-STYLE GARDEN

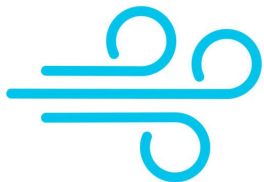
Go on an outdoor hunt to find as many sounds as you can from the list below. Listen carefully and circle the ones you hear.

When you're done with your hunt, make up a silly song, poem, or dance about one of the sounds you heard.



SOUND SEARCH

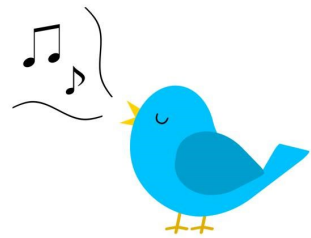
Circle the sounds you hear. If you hear a sound that's not on the page, write it down or draw a picture.



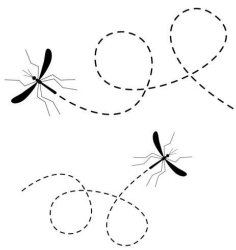
Wind whistling



Water flowing



Bird chirping



Insect buzzing or humming



Leaves rustling



Squirrel or chipmunk chattering



Do you hear any other sounds?

Step 3 — Share your outdoor art: Perform a play outdoors

Try This!

Check here when you complete this step.



IN THE FRENCH PARTERRE

Use the garden as a setting to put on a play about taking care of nature. You can act out a story you make up yourselves, tell a story you've heard before, or pretend you're the Flower Friends telling people how to "Leave No Trace" outside.

Costumes are available in the French Parterre to dress up as characters for your play.

The list below shares some of the ways to Leave No Trace outside. Your play can include characters doing one or more of these things to help the environment.

PROTECT NATURE

A Girl Scout always leave an area better than she finds it! Here are seven important ways to keep nature safe when you're outside and leave no trace that you were there.

- 1) Know before you go
- 2) Choose the right path
- 3) Trash your trash
- 4) Leave what you find
- 5) Be careful with fire
- 6) Respect wildlife
- 7) Be kind to other visitors

IDEAS TO GET YOU STARTED

Here are a few ideas to get you started making up a story for your play. You can use one of these, or come up with your own idea for a story!

- A group of friends go on a picnic
- A family plants and takes care of a garden
- Butterflies, bees, birds, and other wildlife talk together about wanting to keep their homes in nature safe

Bonus step! — Meet an artist who makes art out of things she sees or finds outdoors

Try This!

Check here when you complete this step.



Visit the **C.W. POST TENT** to meet RJ Lucas, an artist who makes nature-inspired art.

Try these activities with her:

- Watch her demonstrate how to press flowers
- Ask her how she is inspired by the outdoors
- See artworks RJ has created and get some tips about how to make your own art from pressed flowers

Meet RJ Lucas, botanical artist and founder of RJ in the District, a local small business with a goal of bringing more color and joy into our homes and spaces through art.

RJ is an artist and activist living in Washington, DC with her dog Ellie Roosevelt and their many plants.

RJ finds inspiration in nature, using locally-sourced preserved plants when she can to capture some of our environment's beauty while teaching sustainability and herblore.

When RJ was young, she wanted to be an art teacher or the President when she grew up. So now she spends her time painting, creating & advocating for a safer & healthier planet.

