

Mission Possible: Nature Challenge at the

HANA & ARTHUR GINZBARG

NATURE DISCOVERY CENTER

The Nature Discovery Center is located in Russ Pitman Park, a 4 acre oasis inside the loop on a residential street in Bellaire. Shaded by towering pecan trees, the park offers nature trails through open groves, a pocket prairie, mini-wetlands and grassy lawns.

Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to explore the length and breadth of Russ Pitman Park (all 4 acres!) and seek out the often un-noticed flora and fauna (plants and animals) residing within its borders.

Take one of the Nature Challenge Charts. As you follow the map through the park, stop at each “station”, and answer the challenge question by recording your observations.

When you return to the Nature Center, show your Nature Challenge Chart to a staff person to receive your Nature Discovery Center Challenge success sticker.

Good luck!



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Station 1 – The Herb Garden

Can you find a plant that smells like candy? Rub your fingers on the leaves of some of the plants here. Sniff the scent from your fingertips. What sweet smells can you find? _____

Station 2 – The Aviary

How many birds can you see in this big cage? _____

Station 3 – The Pocket Prairie

What color flowers are blooming in the pocket prairie today? (Circle all the colors you find)

RED ORANGE YELLOW GREEN BLUE PURPLE WHITE PINK

Station 4 – The Wetland

Look in the little pond. Do you see more fish or more tadpoles? Can you tell the difference?

We saw more _____

Station 5 – The Big Pine Tree

Search the ground around the pine tree. Can you find some pieces of a pine cone on the ground? Yes _____ No _____

Station 6 – The Fountain

There are several kinds of animals that live in or visit this fountain. Which ones can you find today? (Circle all you find)

GOLDFISH MINNOWS TADPOLES SNAILS HONEYBEES ANTS

Did you find anything else at the fountain? _____

CONGRATULATIONS – YOU ARE FINISHED!

Come into the Nature Discovery Center and claim your sticker!