



THE GREENWAY ADVENTURE GUIDE

Parent/caregiver note:

For ages 4 - 9, adult support is recommended

Learners ages 10+ are encouraged to explore the guide independently.



THE
GREEN
WAY



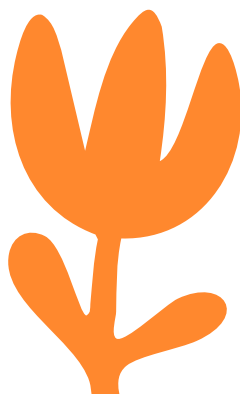
Welcome, Young Explorers!



THIS IS THE ROSE KENNEDY GREENWAY!

It's a special park that stretches more than a mile and a half through downtown Boston and is filled with art, history, gardens, fountains, and fun.

Today, you can become a Junior Greenway Ranger — an explorer on a mission to discover Boston's coolest outdoor playground.



Activity

**BEFORE WE CAN START YOUR ADVENTURE,
YOU NEED AN OFFICIAL BADGE!**



My Greenway Ranger Name:

What makes The Greenway so special?

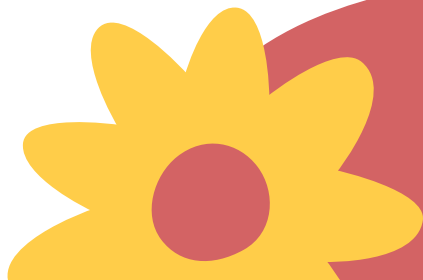


The Greenway is a ribbon of green space running through the city. It's where people come to walk, relax, play, and connect with nature right in the heart of Boston.

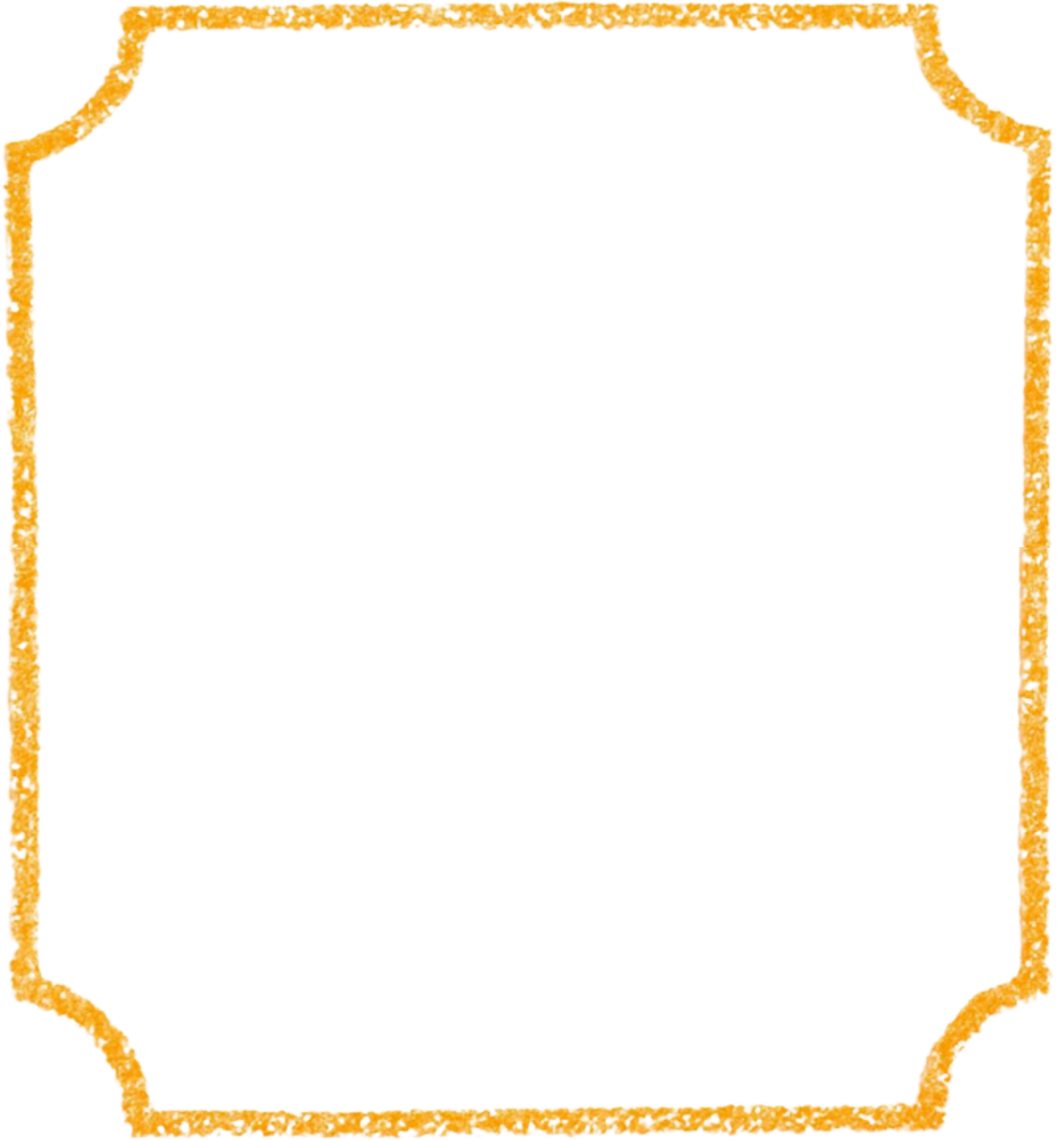
There's something here for everyone — from beautiful gardens to fantastic fountains and amazing art.

Did You Know?

The Greenway stretches more than **1.5 miles** through Boston— that's like **26 football fields** lined up in a row!



Adventure Challenge



Draw yourself enjoying your favorite
park adventure!

The Big Dig: From a highway to a park!



Did you know that not so long ago, this park used to be a noisy, crowded highway? Cars and trucks roared overhead where you're standing right now. Then came a massive project called **The Big Dig**.

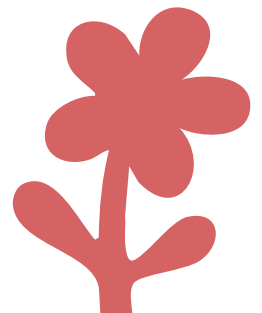
Engineers buried the highway underground and made space for this park filled with art, plants, fountains, and fresh air.

Fun Fact!

Workers dug up enough dirt to

fill **16 football stadiums**.

They poured enough concrete to build a sidewalk from Boston to San Francisco and back three times!



THERE'S ONE MORE THING YOU'LL NEED: A MAP!



NOW, YOUR ADVENTURE CAN BEGIN.

Chinatown and the Trade Gate



Start your Greenway Adventure in Boston's Chinatown, where you'll find the beautiful Chinatown Trade Gate. This stone archway was a gift from Taiwan and is decorated with lions, dragons, and symbols of luck and friendship.

Walk through and explore **Mary Soo Hoo Park** and **Auntie Kay & Uncle Frank Chin Park** — depending on the time of the year you're visiting, you might find murals, play areas, and local festivals too.

I Spy...

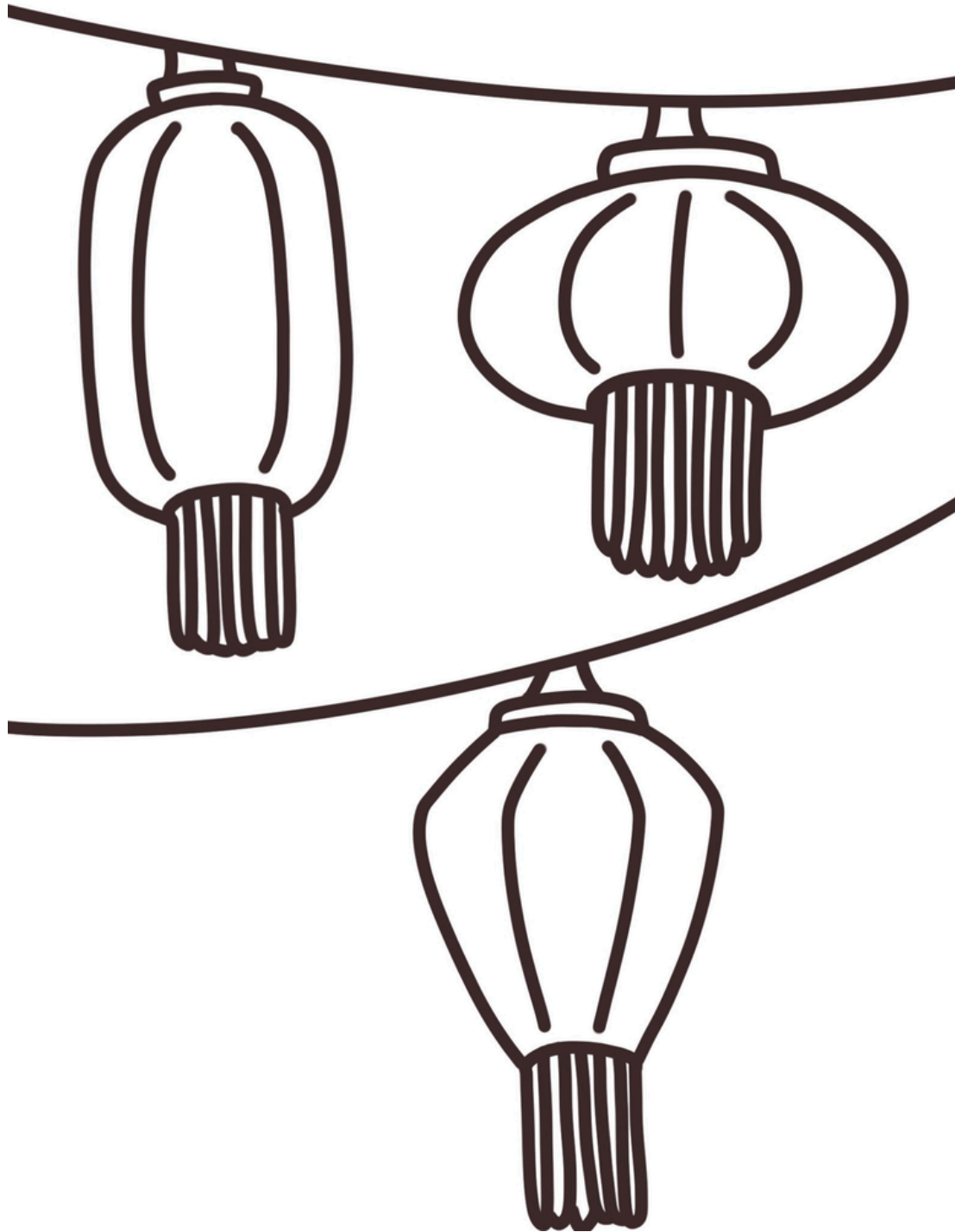
Look closely at the top of the **Chinatown Gate**.

The big green sign has four Chinese characters that mean

“Everything under heaven is for the common good.”
It's a message about kindness and community!



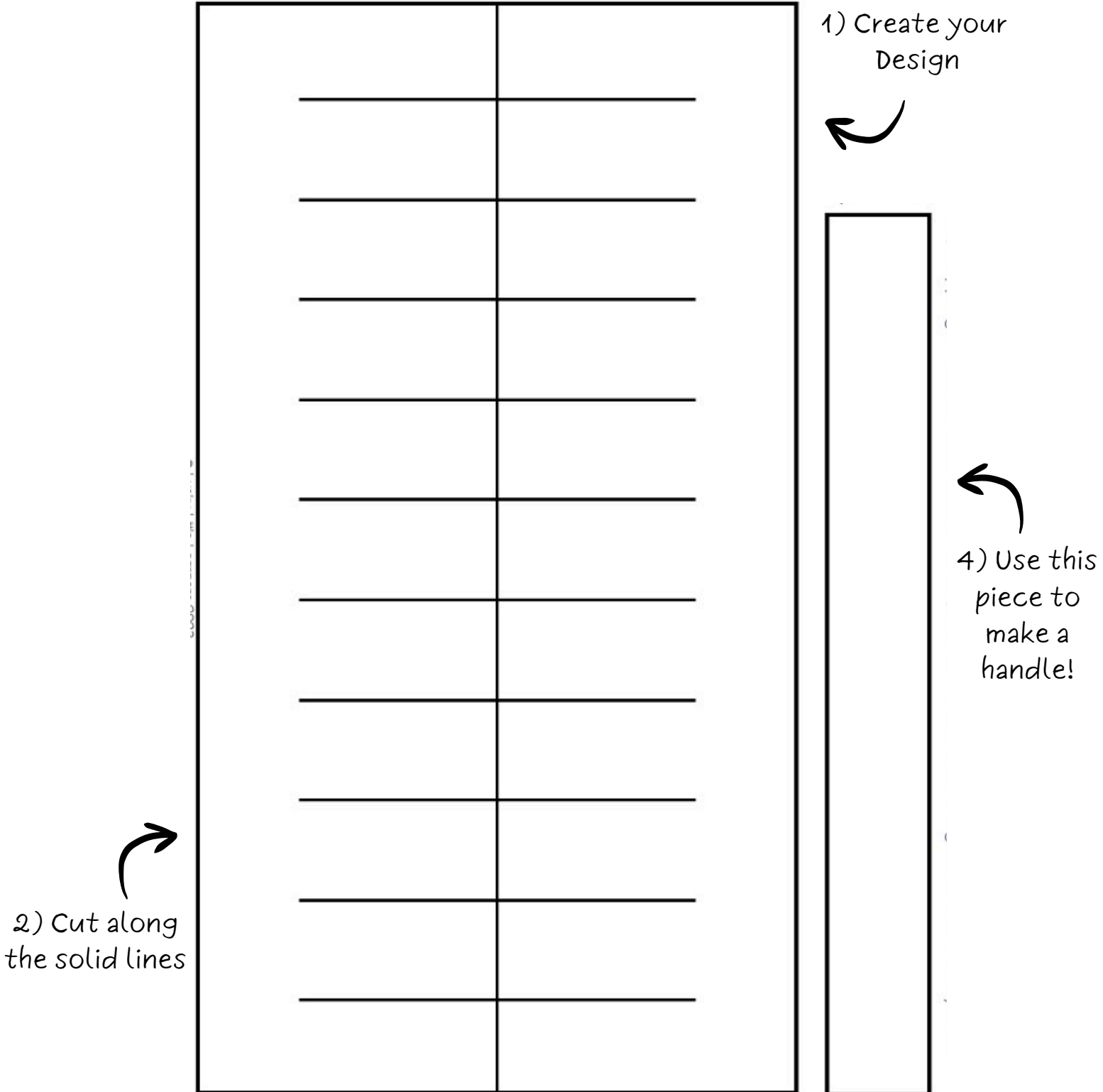
Adventure Challenge



Design your own lantern to hang in Chinatown!
What special elements would you include?

Bonus Activity!

Create your own paper lantern!



3) Use tape or a stapler to form the lantern shape.

Next stop: Dewey Square



Next we'll visit **Dewey Square**, home to Boston's biggest outdoor art exhibit. The massive wall here is painted with a brand-new mural every year or two, created by artists from around the world. That means there's always something different to see!

Did You Know?

Since the first mural went up, there have been **11** different ones here — each one tells its own story.

The Greenway is filled with public art — murals, sculptures, and installations that change every year. Every artist brings a unique story to the park.



Greenway History

HERE ARE WHAT SOME OF THE GREENWAY MURALS HAVE LOOKED LIKE OVER THE YEARS!



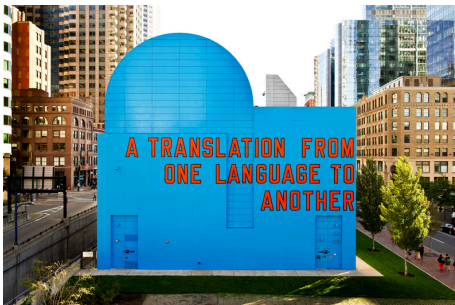
The Giant of Boston
by Os Gemeos, 2012



Remanence: Salt and Light (Part II)
by Matthew Richie, 2013



Seven Moon Junction
by Shinique Smith, 2014



A Translation From One Language To Another
by Lawrence Weiner, 2015



Spaces of Hope
by Mehdi Ghadyanloo, 2016



Carving Out Fresh Options
by Shara Hughes, 2018.



Resonance,
by Super A (Stefan Thelen), 2019



Still Life with Lobster and Fern
by Daniel Gordon, 2021

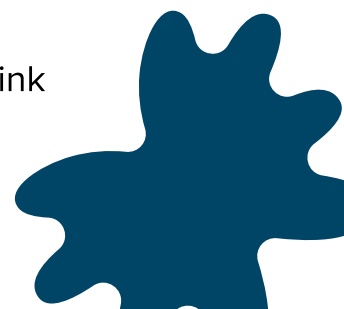


Breathe Life Together
by Rob "ProBlak" Gibbs, 2022

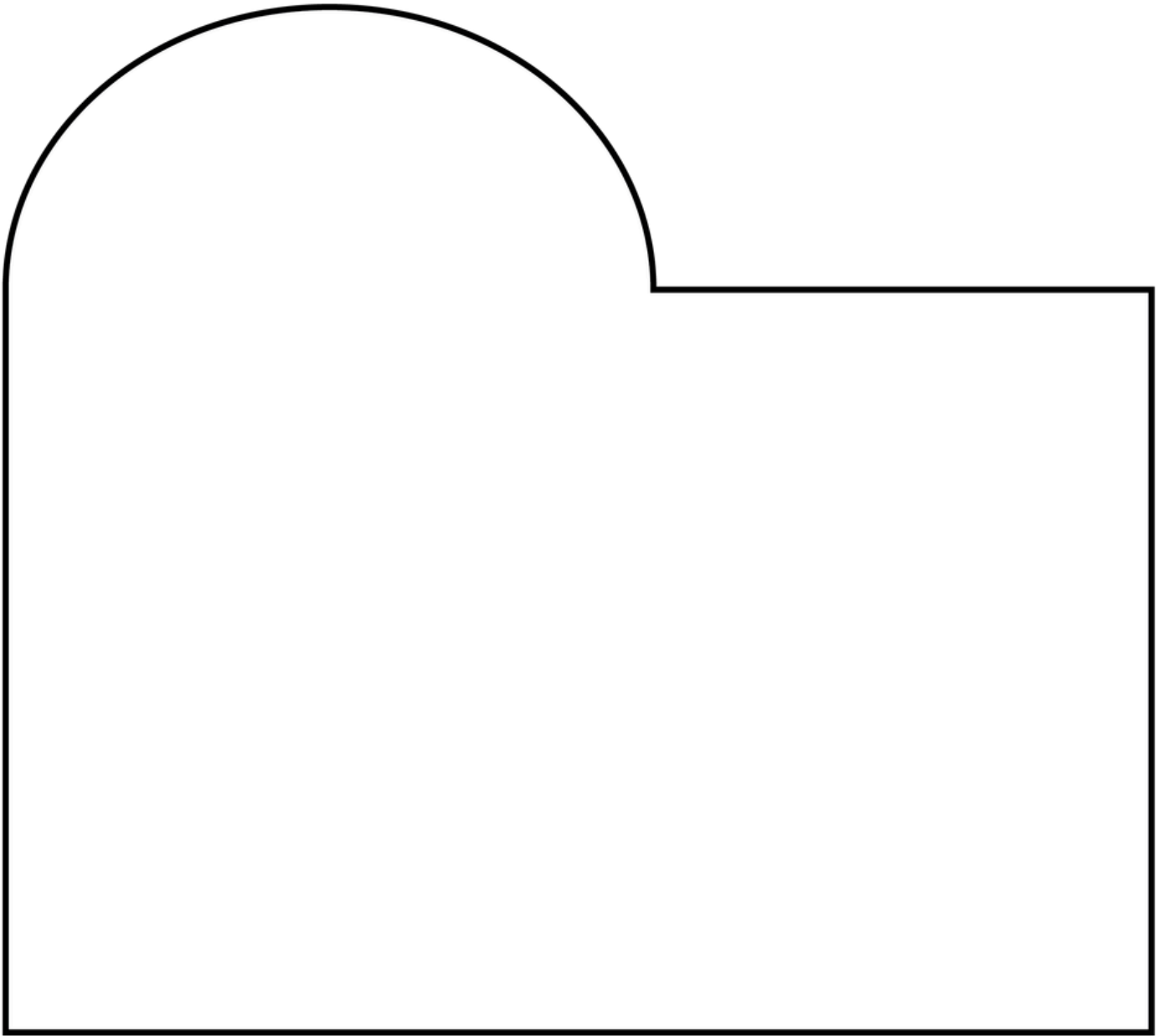


your spirit whispering in my ear,
by Jeffrey Gibson, 2024

The Dewey Square Mural is a special space that transforms every year to reflect a new story and experience from the community! What do you feel when you look at these different pictures? What stories do you think they help to tell?



Adventure Challenge



What would your Greenway Mural look like?

Let's explore the Wharf District!



Keep walking toward the Wharf District until you find Harbor Fog, a magical sculpture that creates swirling mist, colorful lights, and boat-like sounds. It's designed to remind us of Boston's harbor and busy waterfront history.

Close your eyes and listen carefully.
Can you hear seagulls, splashing water,
or boat horns nearby?

Did You Know?

A long time ago, much of Boston was underwater! People filled in the water and made land using dirt and rocks to build neighborhoods like the Back Bay. And guess what? When the Big Dig project created The Greenway, a lot of the soil they dug up was used to help make places like Spectacle Island in Boston Harbor!



Adventure Challenge

Can you find all the flowers in the word search?

J R B R U K M B T R
L O R P C U M L T Z
T S D A I S Y Y N G
C E C J L A S T E R
G O H I B I S C U S
T U L I P Z Q U Z L
T D A F F O D I L I
H Y D R A N G E A L
L E U K V F J U Q Y
J X A C Q M F E Z M

Hydrangea

Tulip

Daffodil

Aster

Hibiscus

Daisy

Lily

Rose

Organic and Sustainable Gardens

Organic Park Care

All around The Greenway, many small but important features support sustainability, from water-saving gardens that reduce runoff to plant choices that provide food and shelter for local wildlife.

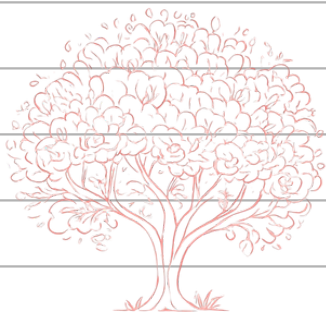
Composting, mulching, and organic care practices help keep the soil healthy without the use of harmful chemicals.



Soft Landing



Many caterpillars actually fall to the ground to make their chrysalises, but in cities they often land on concrete or mulch, making it hard for them to grow safely. Horticulturalists on The Greenway are helping by creating a soft landing: a cozy layer of native plants under the oak trees so caterpillars have a safe place to land and transform.



Take a walk over to Rings Fountain!



Just steps away, the **Rings Fountain** showcases 64 jets that “shoot” water high into the air. The jets “dance” and even light up at night, creating a magical experience and a cooling spot to relax during some of the summer’s hottest days! What’s your favorite way to keep cool in the summer?

Did You Know?

Fountains have been a part of human history for thousands of years! The ancient Greeks, Romans, and Mesopotamians used fountains for drinking water and to beautify their surroundings. In those days, fountains were mostly found in palaces and places of worship, but now you can find them almost everywhere including right here on The Greenway!

Adventure Challenge

Unscramble all the words!

INNFUAOT: _____

TEAWR: _____

TJSE: _____

RSOACL: _____

SGTHLI: _____

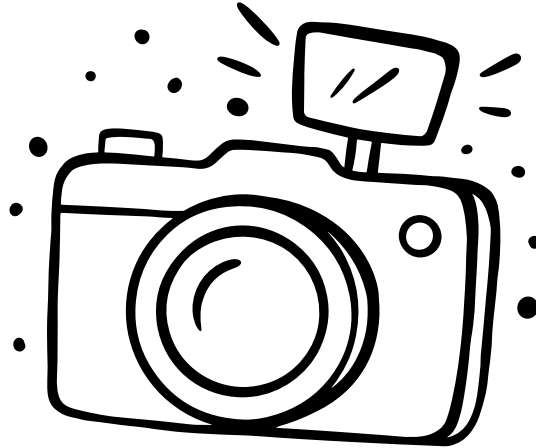
GNSRI: _____

BONUS CHALLENGE!

ANTEMNCEIAN: _____

Bonus Activity!

Rings Fountain Photo Challenge:



Using a camera or a cell phone, find and take photos of each of the following:

RINGS FOUNTAIN
THE GREENWAY LIGHT BLADES
A PUBLIC ART EXHIBIT
A BLOOMING FLOWER
A POLLINATOR (BEE OR BUTTERFLY)
SOMETHING EXCITING!

BONUS:

**CAN YOU SPOT A RAINBOW IN
THE FOUNTAIN?**

Take a spin on The Greenway Carousel!

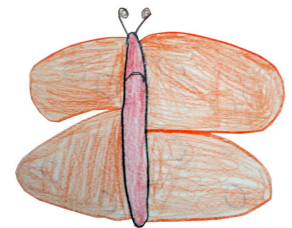


Near the **Greenway Carousel**, you'll find some of the most playful spots on The Greenway. The Greenway Carousel is filled with hand-carved animals designed by kids just like you!

I spy...

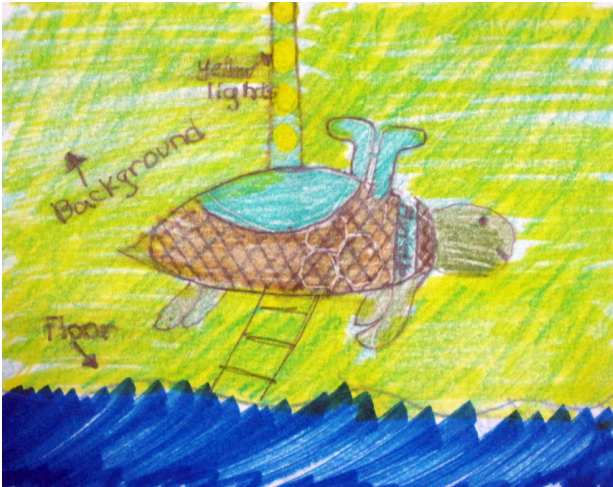
The Carousel animals celebrate the wildlife found in Boston's land, sea, and sky.

How many animals can you count?



Greenway History

The artist, Jeffrey Briggs, designed the Carousel characters based on children's drawings!



Turtle Drawing



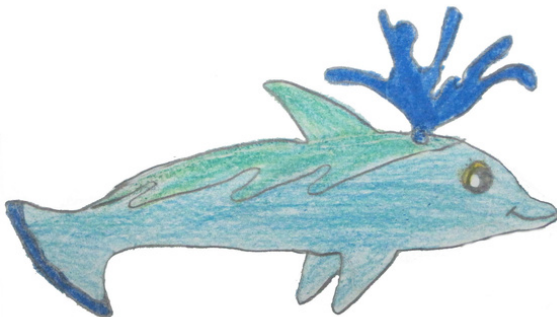
Turtle Sculpture in Workshop



Grasshopper Drawing



Grasshopper in Workshop

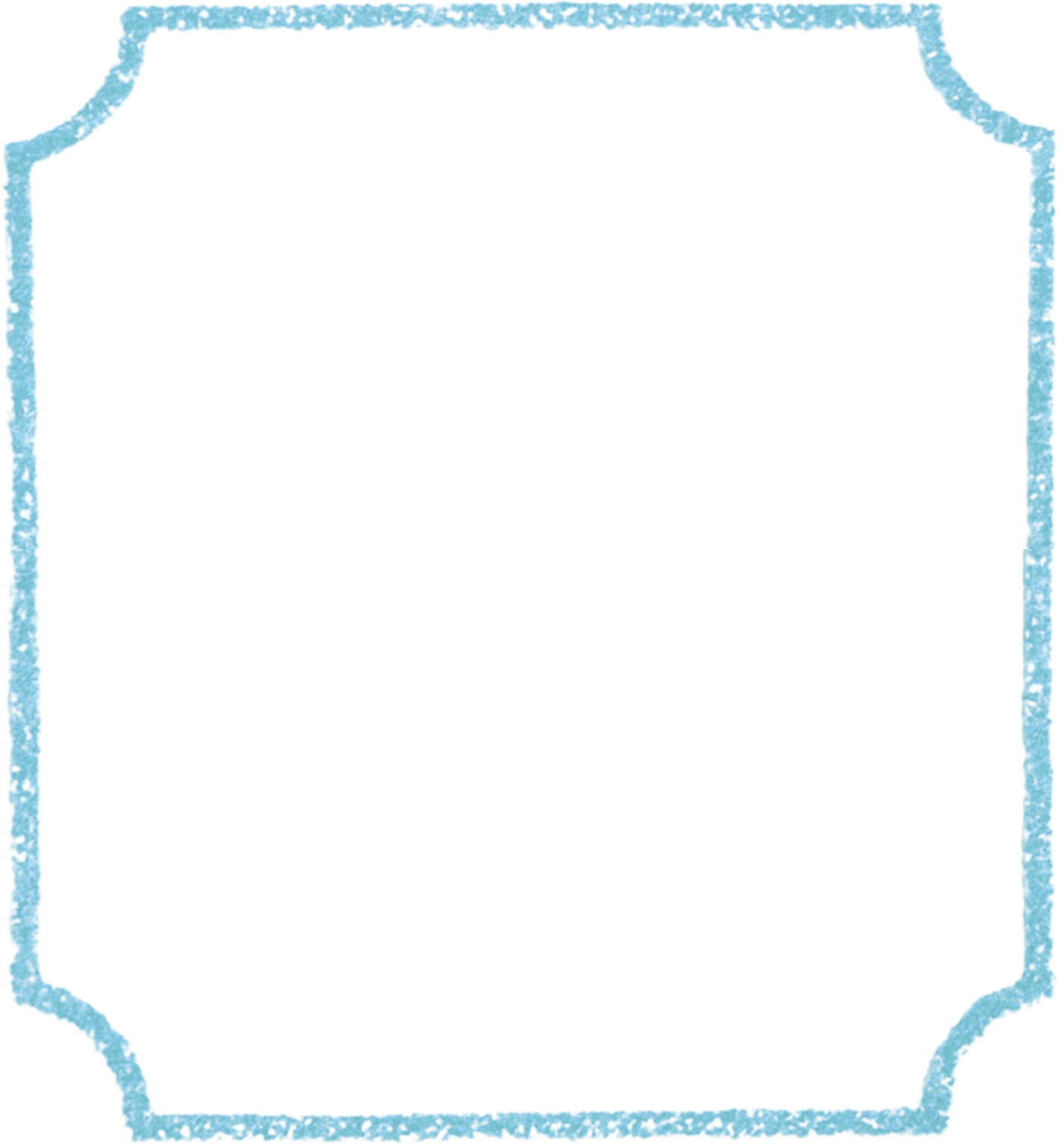


Whale Drawing



Whale on Carousel

Adventure Challenge



If you could design a Greenway Carousel Creature, what would it look like? Draw it here!

Visit Armenian Heritage Park!



Armenian Heritage Park is a special place that celebrates the experience of all people who have come to this country to start a new life. At the center is a labyrinth, with one path leading to the center and the same path leading out that gives you time to relax, reflect, and explore.

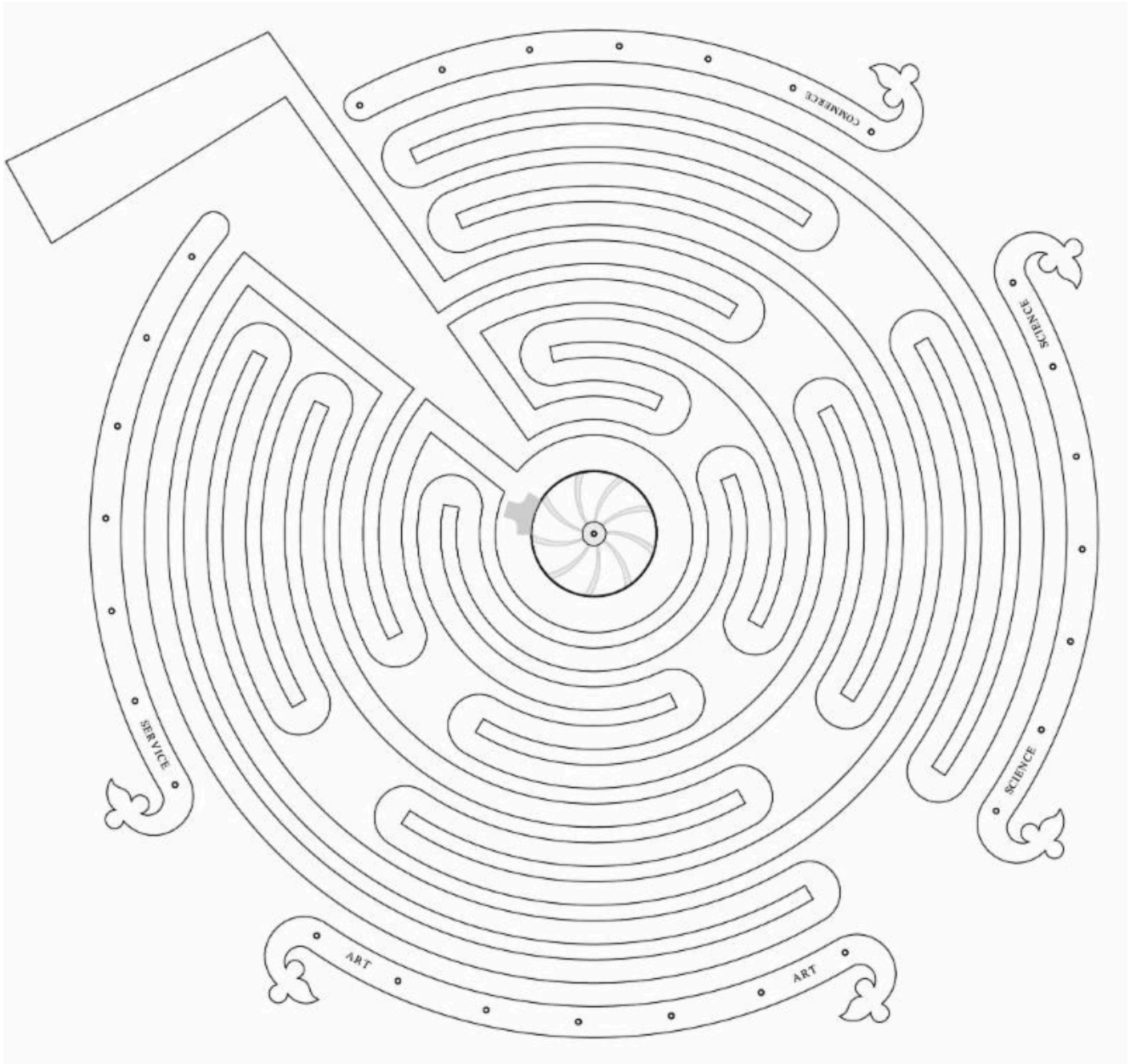
There's also a beautiful fountain, lots of green space, and plenty of room to run, spin, and play.

Did you know?

The **abstract sculpture** at the edge of the park gets reconfigured each year into a new shape!



Adventure Challenge



Trace the path of the labyrinth,
what did you discover?

There's so much to discover in our Wildflower Meadow!



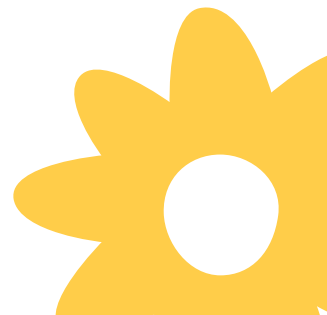
One of The Greenway's most magical spots is the wildflower meadow, buzzing with bees and fluttering butterflies.

The Greenway's gardens are cared for organically, meaning no harmful chemicals are used.

That helps keep the soil, plants, and animals healthy.

Did You Know?

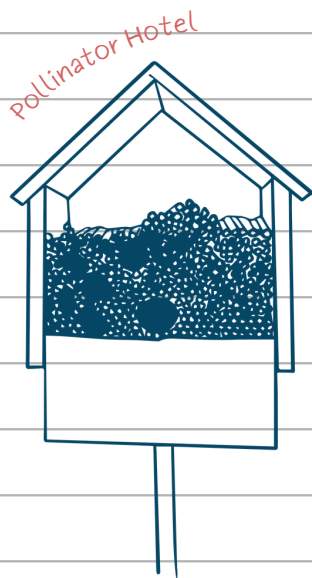
Pollinators are "frequent fliers"! Bees visit up to **5,000 flowers a day**, and Monarch butterflies travel all the way to Mexico for the winter. Birds multitask on their flights—spreading seeds, which in turn grow more plants.



Eco-Explorer Entry

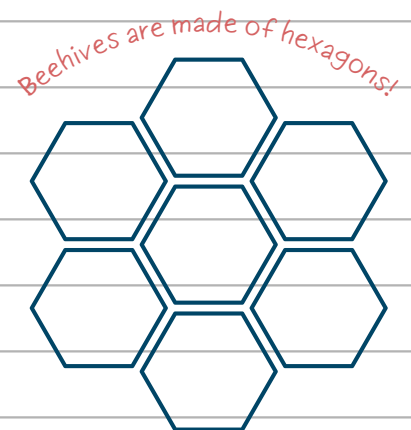
Beehives and Pollinators

Beehives on The Greenway are always buzzing with activity—busy bees zip in and out all day, helping flowers grow. They really are tiny gardeners!

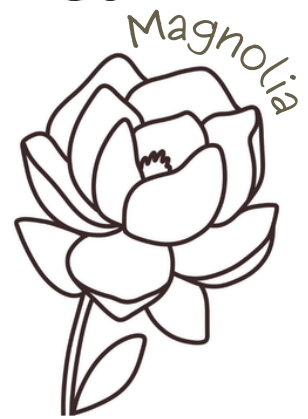
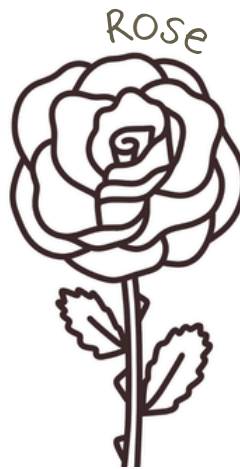
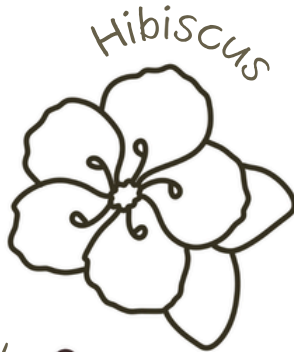
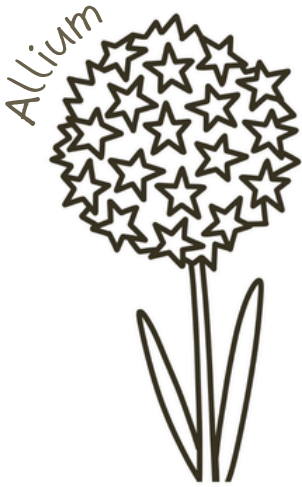


Pollinator Hotels tucked into the gardens look like little bug-sized apartment buildings where bees and other insects can rest and stay safe.

In winter, bees huddle together inside their hives to stay warm. Some even rest in hollow stems or the Pollinator Hotels until warm spring weather returns.



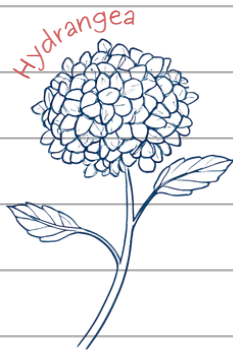
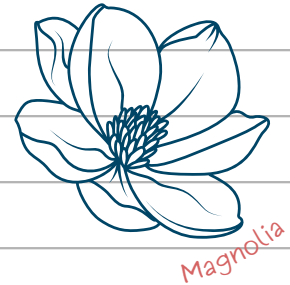
Adventure Challenge



These are some of our favorite Greenway Flowers!
Color the ones you would grown in your garden.

Seasonal Blooms on The Greenway

In spring, magnolia trees on The Greenway open their huge, fluffy pink, white, and yellow flowers, making the park feel bright and full of color. It's one of the first signs that warmer days are coming.



During summer, hydrangeas bloom in big clusters of blue, pink, and purple, almost like colorful pom-poms decorating the gardens. Their colors can even change depending on the soil.

In fall, holly bushes stand out with shiny green leaves and bright red berries that look like tiny natural ornaments. They're a cheerful splash of color as the weather cools.



The North End



There is one more special stop in this adventure guide - the North End!

This area is full of fun, history, and delicious food! It's where old Boston charm meets park adventures — you can watch the fountains splash in the summer, visit unique art, and enjoy treats from nearby bakeries and food trucks.

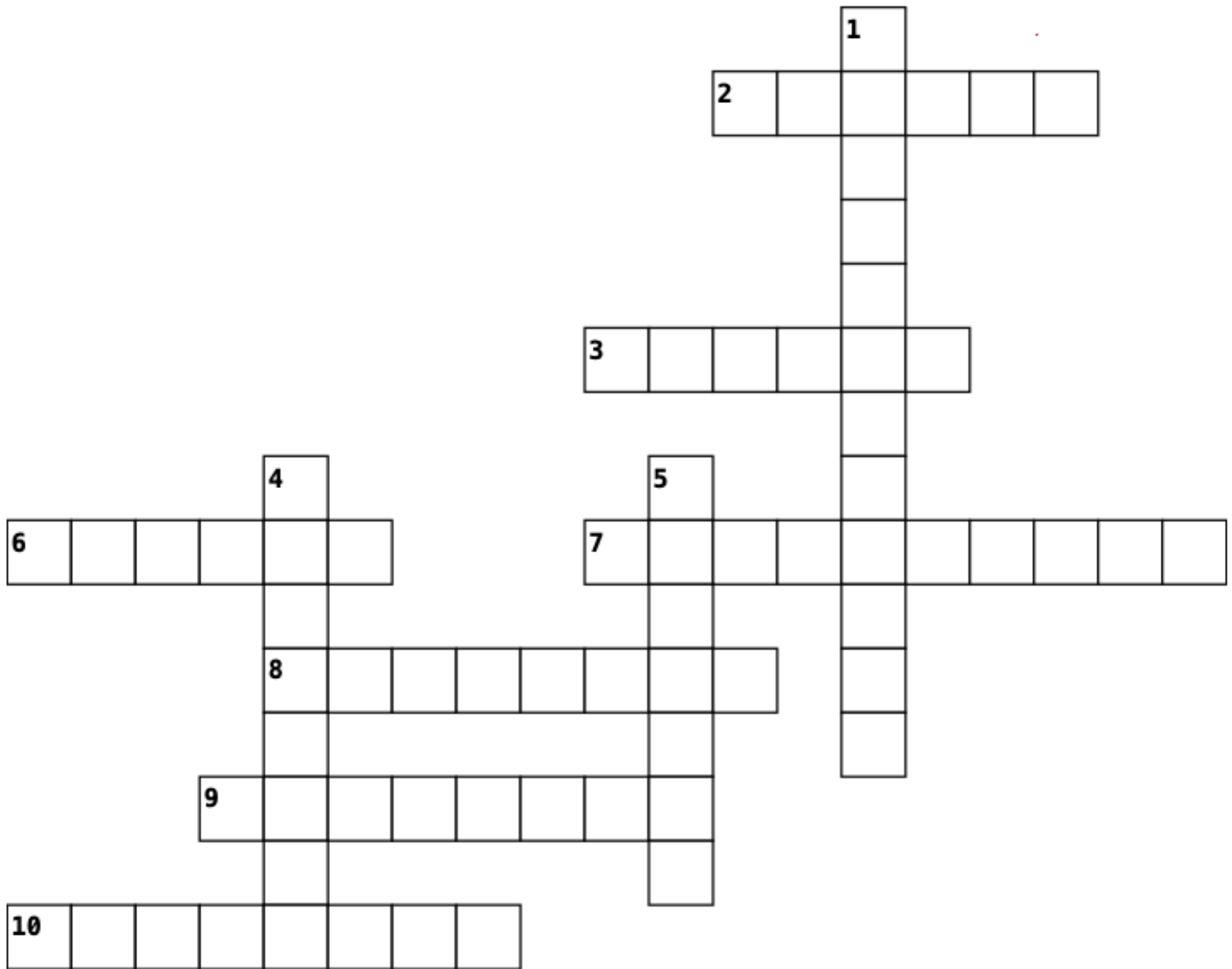
With views of the city and space to play, it's the perfect spot to explore, snack, and soak up the sunshine!

I Spy...

Can you spot Boston's tall clock tower peeking above the trees?

This is the **Custom House Tower**, one of the oldest buildings in Boston. Visits to the top of the tower are free!

Adventure Challenge



ACROSS

2. Bees and butterflies love to visit these!
3. Massachusetts' capital city
6. Boston's waterfront is part of this busy place for boats
7. His historic home is still standing in the North End
8. The Greenway runs right next to this historic, Italian neighborhood
9. The Greenway has one with creatures from Boston's land, air, and sea!
10. A park made for walking, playing, and relaxing in the city!

DOWN

1. Follow this line through the city to learn about American history
4. Water sprays up from this fun feature on The Greenway
5. You can find this tasty Italian treat at Mikes' Pastry or Modern Pastry

Greenway History

History Comes Alive

Here in the park, history isn't just something we read about; it's something we experience every day!

In the North End area of the park, there are several points of interest for junior historians to explore—from the Greenway's Leaning Rail to the Freedom Trail®, the site of Zipporah Potter Atkins' home, and even an outline of the Old Mill Pond!

The Leaning Rail

Take a close look at the Leaning Rail—it's more than just a place to sit! This unique feature includes a timeline that shows how the North End neighborhood changed over time as new settlers arrived. As you read along, imagine the different people who lived here and how the area grew from a shoreline into the vibrant neighborhood you see today.



The Freedom Trail®

Follow the red-brick path and you'll be walking through history! The Freedom Trail connects 16 important sites from the American Revolution. As you explore, see if you can spot where the trail passes through the park—it's like a time-travel path right under your feet.

Greenway History

History Comes Alive

Zipporah Potter Atkins' Home Site

Right here in this neighborhood once stood the home of Zipporah Potter Atkins, a remarkable woman who owned land in Boston over 300 years ago. Think about what life might have been like in her time, and how the neighborhood has changed since then.



The Old Mill Pond Outline

Can you find the shape on the ground? It marks where the Old Mill Pond used to be! This pond was once part of Boston's busy waterfront, used for powering mills and trade. Today, its outline helps us imagine the water that once filled this space.

Keep your eyes open—there are stories hidden all around you, just waiting to be discovered!

Congratulations!



This certifies that

NAME

is officially a

Greenway Junior Ranger

as of

DATE



SENIOR PARK RANGER



YOU ARE OFFICIALLY A JUNIOR RANGER!

Thank you for joining us on an exploration of The Greenway! We hope you were able to learn more about Boston, the park, and our environmental work. Make sure to cut out your official ranger certificate and hang it somewhere special!

If you want even more fun, check out our Junior Ranger Challenges for each season...

Spring

JUNIOR RANGER CHALLENGE

Can you spot all 10 signs of spring
on The Greenway?

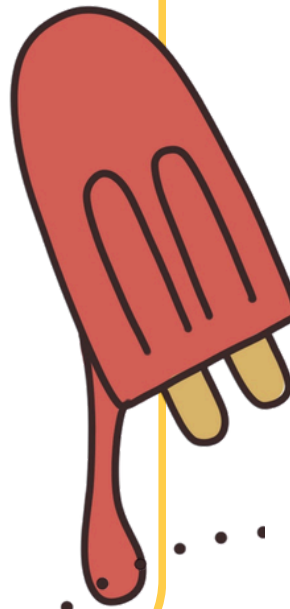
- A flower bud just starting to bloom
- A bee, butterfly, or other pollinator visiting a plant
- A tree showing tiny green leaves for the first time
- A patch of wildflowers beginning to grow
- A gardener or Greenway staff member tending the plants
- A tree with pink or white blossoms
- A street performer, musician, or artist entertaining visitors
- A family or group of friends enjoying the park together
- Someone riding the carousel or picking their favorite animal
- A sign or banner announcing spring events on The Greenway

Summer

JUNIOR RANGER CHALLENGE

Can you find all 10 summer sights
on The Greenway?

- The Rings Fountain spraying water into the air
- Someone cooling off in the Harbor Fog mist
- A carousel animal you haven't spotted before
- A flower taller than you are
- A butterfly or bee pollinating a plant
- A Greenway food truck with a long line
- Someone eating ice cream or a cold treat
- A musician, performer, or outdoor class
- The Chinatown Gate shining in the sun
- A shady spot where people are relaxing





Autumn

JUNIOR RANGER CHALLENGE



Can you spot all 10 fall favorite
on The Greenway?

- A tree with orange, red, or yellow leaves
 - A fall flower like goldenrod or aster
 - A squirrel or rabbit collecting food
 - A pumpkin, gourd, or fall decoration
 - A pollinator garden still buzzing with life
 - Someone sipping a warm drink from a food truck or café nearby
 - A new (or new to you!) mural or public art installation
 - A bird migrating or flying overhead
 - A bench plaque dedicated to someone special
 - A community event happening on The Greenway
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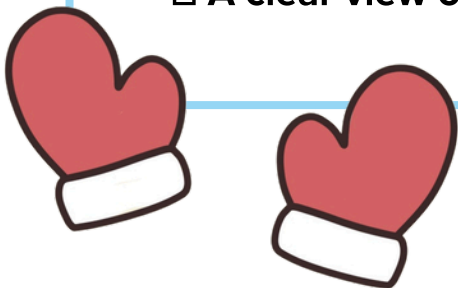
Winter

JUNIOR RANGER CHALLENGE



Can you find all 10 winter wonders
on The Greenway?

- A tree without leaves
- A holiday light display or decorations
- Someone bundled up in a big scarf or hat
- Sleeping Animals (visit the carousel and wave to the animals taking their winter nap)
- A snowman or icy puddle (if the weather cooperates!)
- The Dewey Square mural looking bright against a gray sky
- A bird or squirrel braving the cold
- A hot drink from a nearby café or food truck
- A public art piece that looks different in winter
- A clear view of Boston Harbor without leaves blocking the way



ANSWER KEY

WORD SEARCH

J R B R U K M B T R
L O R P C U M L T Z
T S D A I S Y Y N G
C E C J L A S T E R
G O H I B I S C U S
T U L I P Z Q U Z L
T D A F F O D I L I
H Y D R A N G E A L
L E U K V F J U Q Y
J X A C Q M F E Z M

Hydrangea
Tulip

Daffodil
Aster

Hibiscus
Daisy

Lily
Rose

UNSCRAMBLE

INNFAUOT: FOUNTAIN

TEAWR: WATER

TJSE: JETS

RSOACL: COLORS

SGTHLI: LIGHTS

GNSRI: RINGS

ANTEMNCEIAN: MAINTENANCE

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

2. Garden
3. Boston
6. Harbor
7. Paul Revere
8. North End
9. Carousel

DOWN

1. Freedom Trail
4. Fountain
5. Cannoli