

Design Your Secret Garden: The Secret Garden Companion Activity

Did you read The Secret Garden by Frances Hodgson Burnett and feel inspired to relish the great outdoors? We completely understand! Through this story, Frances Hodgson Burnett does a beautiful job highlighting the interconnectedness of nature with our own personal wellbeing. Through this activity, we hope to inspire you to create your own "secret" garden and gain an appreciation for the bond we can share with the environment. Don't own the book, but want to read it? Visit your local library or the library at Temple University's Ambler Campus to check it out!

Questions to (Lonsider:
	g in, take some time to discuss <i>The Secret Garden</i> with family members or friends who the story. Below are some questions you might consider during the discussion.
1. Consid a.	der the story's main characters, Mary and Colin: How is Mary described at the beginning of the story?
b.	How is Colin described at the beginning of the story?
C.	How does Mary change, or develop, as the story progresses?
d.	How does Colin change, or develop, as the story progresses?
e.	What are some factors that you think contribute to the changes in both Mary and Colin by the end of the story?
	be the secret garden that Mary discovers. This can be a description of the garden when first finds it, or at any point in the story.

- 3. What is your favorite thing about the secret garden in the story?
- 4. What impact does the secret garden have on both Mary and Colin? Why do you think this is?
- 5. Based on what you have learned from this story, why is our connection to nature so important? What are the benefits of spending time in nature?



Design Your Secret Garden:

Now it's time to design your very own "secret" garden! Maybe you already have a garden at home, but, whether you do or not, take some time to design the perfect garden for **you**. Need inspiration? Take a walk! Check out gardens in your neighborhood, at a family member's or friend's house, or visit your local park. You are also welcome to visit the Ambler Arboretum of Temple University for inspiration! We are open to the public from dawn to dusk, seven days a week. Below you will find a guide to help you plan your garden.

Goal

What benefit do you want to get from your garden?				
The Space Where do you want to plant your garden? Do you want it to be a large garden or a small garden? Does the garden have a particular shape to it? Is it in a raised garden bed, or planted directly in the ground? Describe what you picture the space to look like.				
Plants I Want Find plants you would like to grow in your garden. Suggestion: Bring a field guide on a walk, or download a plant identification app to help you determine the names of plants you find and want to include in your list. Don't forget to take a picture!				
Plant Name	I want this plant in my garden because	Plant Needs (Do Some Research Here)		



Other Elements I Want				
Plants will certainly make your garden look beautiful, but is there anything else you would like to				
include in your garden? Fencing, bird feeders, state	ues? What other elements will help you reach your			
gardening goals?				
Element Name & Description	I want this element in my garden because			
Garden Design				
Using the space below, draw a picture of what you want your garden to look like.				

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Interested in making your garden come to life? We encourage you to do so! Surrounding ourselves with nature not only has benefits to us but benefits the other living beings we share our environment with. Come visit us at the Ambler Arboretum, and we would be happy to give you tips on getting started!