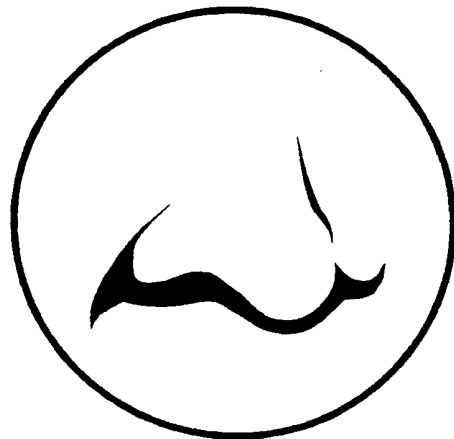
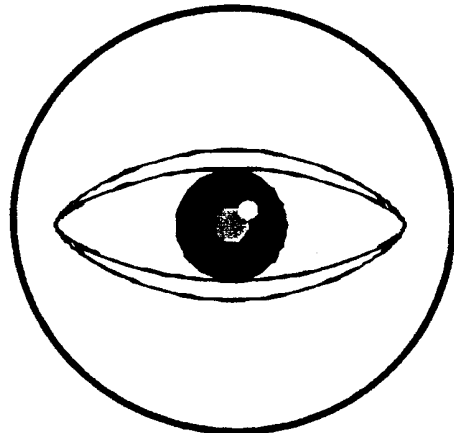
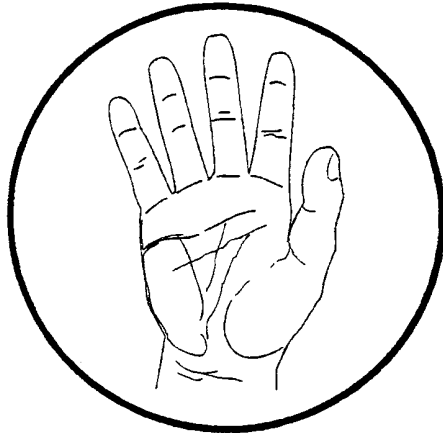
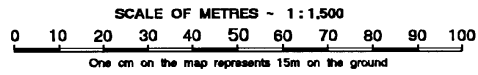
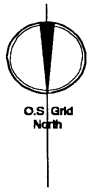


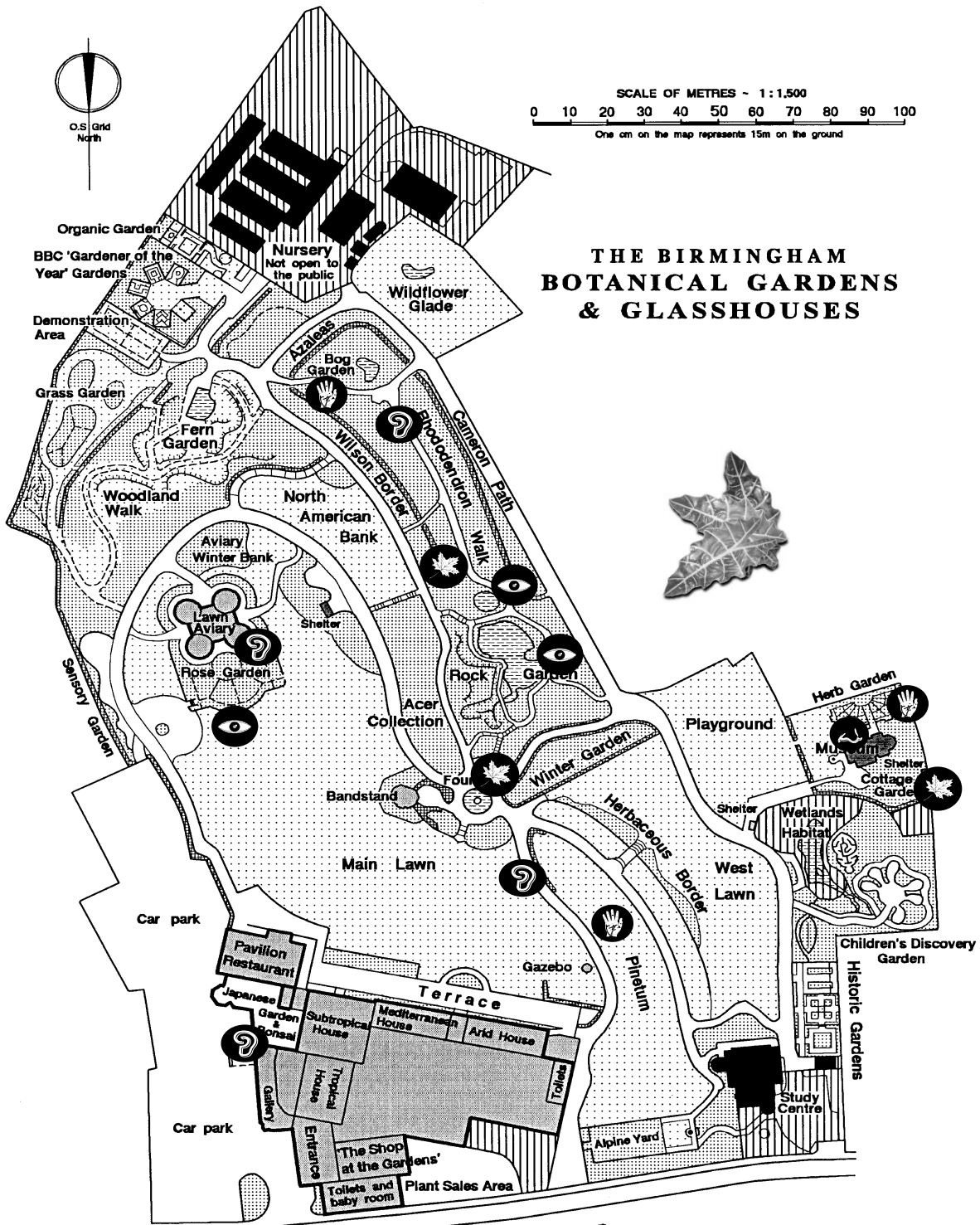
Senses Trail



THE BIRMINGHAM
BOTANICAL
GARDENS
TURN OVER A NEW LEAF



THE BIRMINGHAM BOTANICAL GARDENS & GLASSHOUSES



BGDNS
Revision 5

(c) Crown copyright

Based upon the Ordnance Survey map with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office

Survey and OCAD computer cartography
John G Mansfield June 2002
Copyright BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

Licence LA 076104 / 02

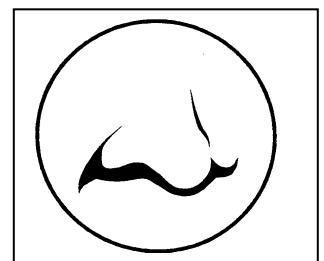
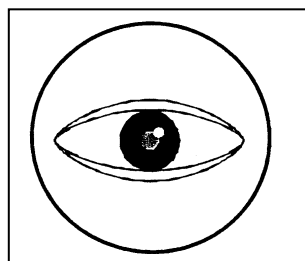
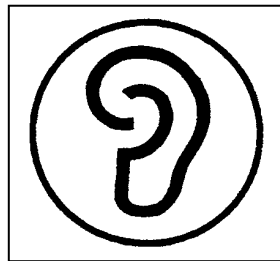
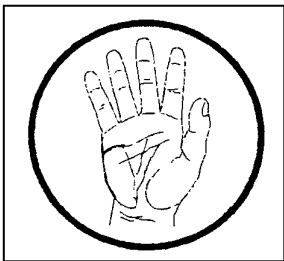
This trail is to encourage children to see, hear, smell and feel things around them, to begin to appreciate living things, develop a caring attitude and have an overall concern for our environment. Take time to fully develop the use of each sense.

You will need:

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Paper and wax crayons | for bark rubbings |
| Mirrors * | for looking above |
| Sticky collection cards ** | for colour collections |
| Blindfolds * | for feeling textures |

You can do the trail in any order; perhaps the children would like to help you use the map to plan your route.

Look out for these symbols showing which senses are going to be used:



** These can be provided by the Education department on request. Otherwise you can still do the trail without them.*

*** These can be made by sticking a strip of double-sided tape to a piece of card, e.g. a postcard. You could also bring along empty egg boxes to collect and sort natural objects.*

Looking for Colour

During your walk you are going to make a colour collection using the sticky collecting cards given to you by your teacher. DO NOT PICK PLANTS for this, all you need can be found on the floor.

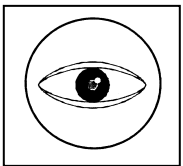
You need to collect small pieces of as many different coloured petals, leaves or other plant material as possible and attach them to the sticky side of the card.

Some good spots for colour collections are suggested on the trail by this symbol:

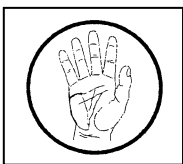


The Pinetum

Begin at Douglas Way with the Pinetum facing you.



Look for the red coloured tree trunk (Californian sierra redwood, sequoia dendron giganteum).



Feel it carefully, what is it like?

Can you find a tree trunk that has a different feel? Describe how it feels.

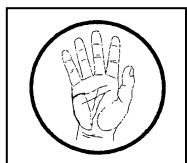
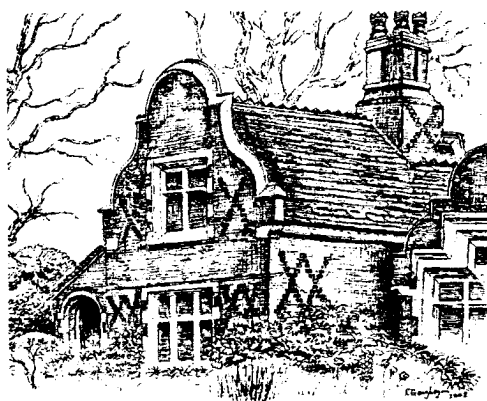
You could make some bark rubbings of these trees and write some words down to describe the feel of them.

Stand by the Gazebo

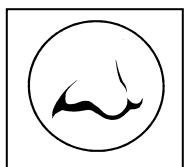


Close your eyes for one minute. What can you hear? (e.g. cars, birds, children, tractor, fountain, rustle of leaves)

*From the fountain, follow the map to reach the playground. Walk through the Cottage Garden to the **Herb Garden.***



This is a good place to gently rub the leaves of some of the herb plants between your fingers and then smell them.



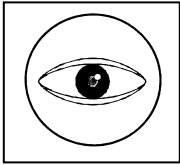
There is no need to pick them.
What smells did you like?
Why did you like them?

Look here for some more of your colour collection.



The Rock Garden and Rhododendron Walk

Go back through the playground and turn left up the small gravel path.



How many colours and shapes can you see as you walk along here?

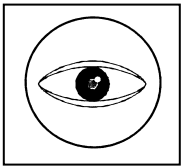


At the end of the path stand very still with your eyes closed for one minute. Listen carefully and discuss the number of sounds you can hear.

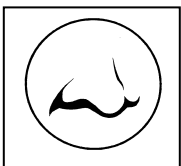


This is a good place for more of your colour collection, especially when the rhododendrons are in bloom.

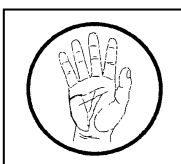
The Woodland Walk



Look down into your mirror to see the trees above you. How many different types of tree can you spot?



Take a silent walk through the woods. Stop when you reach the tree stumps. Take a big sniff. Can you smell the leaves?



If you're feeling brave, put on a blindfold then ask your partner to lead you to tree. Feel the bark and tell them about the texture.

Look carefully to find six different natural objects, then find a word to best describe each one, e.g. a prickly leaf, a tickly feather. Return your objects to nature!

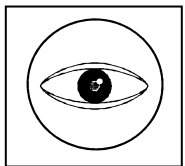
Follow the sound of the birds to the **Lawn Aviary**.



Listen to the different sounds made by the birds. Can you persuade any of them to talk to you?



See if you can find any feathers. Then visit the Rose Garden to find some petals for your colour card.



Look across the Main Lawn. How many different parts of the Botanical Gardens can you see? (e.g. bandstand, fountain, glasshouses, tearoom)

Follow the path to the **Japanese Garden**.



On your way, collect pieces of fallen leaves from the trees at the edge of the lawn.



This garden would be used for quiet relaxation and contemplation. How many restful noises can you hear?



We hope you have enjoyed the Senses Trail and that it has made you more aware of the world around you.

You can use this sheet to draw or write what you discovered during your Senses Walk.

