Autumn Outdoor Scavenger Hunt!



Please remember that animals you may see at the Conservatory are wild animals, not pets. Make sure you respect their personal space!

Scavenger hunts drawn by
Family Programs Coordinator Jam Doughty

GARFIELD PARK CONSERVATORY ALLIANCE

Scavenger Hunt Key

A squirrel

Two kinds of squirrels live in Chicago- eastern gray squirrels and fox squirrels. Both are very busy this time of year, burying all kinds of nuts for winter.

A seed pod

Many trees use the energy they gathered all summer to put out tons of seed pods! The ones pictured here are honey locust beans, buckeyes, and sweetgum.

A spiderweb

Spiders are present all summer, but much more noticeable in fall, when they've reached larger sizes and there aren't as many leaves blocking our view!

A chilly breeze

Although fall temperatures are rising in Illinois due to climate change, we can still look forward to cold gusts of wind to blow our leaf piles around!

FUNGUS!

Fall is just wet and warm enough for fungus to fruit, or put out mushrooms! Mycelia, white threadlike structures buried in soil or rotting wood, are the main body of the fungus. Mushrooms themselves are more like a flower- present for a short time, showy, and crucial for reproduction!

A flock of geese

Although we hear and see Canada geese flying overhead in fall, you may notice… they actually stay here all winter! Some species stay here year round, while others actually migrate here in the fall from much farther north, where conditions are even more inhospitable in winter.

Ripening Squash

Many delicious varieties of squash need to be picked in fall, before the first frost. Check out the demonstration garden to see if any are still on the vine!

Someone looking forward to Halloween

Fun costumes are always welcome at the Conservatory!

A milkweed bug

This orangey-red and black bug can be found on milkweed plants from the end of summer til early fall. Like monarch butterflies, this bug feeds on milkweed and sequesters their toxic chemicals in its body, making it toxic as well!