

# A "FronD"ness for Plants

*Discovering the Errol McKoy Greenhouse*



QUEST 9  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
SCIENCE

STATE FAIR OF TEXAS  
**CURRICULUM**

## STUDENT EDITION

### Recap

You will be going to the State Fair of Texas to explore the Errol McKoy Greenhouse. Bring back info on the plants so you can design a dichotomous key...and a Steampunk garden!

### STATE FAIR MAP



Recall from your in-class discussions:

- ★ What is a dichotomous key? You should have looked at samples and learned how to read them.
- ★ Plants and trees can develop adaptations in order to survive in different climates or with different animals. What are some of the adaptations/traits that plants and trees in Texas have developed?
- ★ What is the carbon cycle?
- ★ You may have learned about Steampunk in Art class, prior to coming to the Fair today. To refresh your memory, visit this link: <http://steampunkdistrict.com/what-is-steampunk-art/>



### Plan Your Route

- ★ Find the Errol McKoy Greenhouse on the map of the Fair, and walk there.



### Optional Materials to Bring

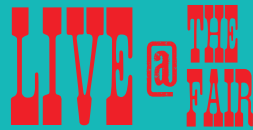
- ★ Writing utensil and something to write on
- OR
- ★ A way to digitally take notes
  - ★ A device with a camera
  - ★ Measuring tape



Source: [http://pre03.deviantart.net/76e8/th/pre/i/2013/167/9/3/steampunk\\_flower\\_garden\\_by\\_hiddendemon\\_666-d69cde8.jpg](http://pre03.deviantart.net/76e8/th/pre/i/2013/167/9/3/steampunk_flower_garden_by_hiddendemon_666-d69cde8.jpg)

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## While You're There

You will use information you gather at the State Fair to help you with THREE project goals:

1. Design a dichotomous key using plant and tree information from your notes today.
2. Create a Steampunk garden of plants and trees with your class.
3. Compose two descriptive poems based on the specimens you see in the Greenhouse.

The objective of your visit is to note what plants are growing in the Errol McKoy Greenhouse and what other features the Greenhouse has.

- ★A “FROND”NESS FOR PLANTS: Enter the Errol McKoy Greenhouse.
- Check out the variety of plants growing in the greenhouse.
  - Either take notes or take photos of plant ID tags, leaf patterns, limbs, number of shoots, height, and colors.
  - Take note of the different features of the Errol McKoy Greenhouse.
    - What is it made of? Does it have any type of temperature controls?



## Back at School

When you return to class following your State Fair visit, you will work on your three projects. See your teachers for more information.