

Lesson 5: Laurelwood Arboretum (field trip)



Adolescent Literacy Series: Sociodialogic Reading

Homework 3: Laurelwood Arboretum
in New Jersey

The Knippenberg Legacy



John and Dorothy Knippenberg were pioneers in the world of horticulture, with a deep passion for rhododendrons and azaleas.

Rhododendron
a bush with large red, purple, pink or white flowers.
The Knippenbergs acquired 30 acres of woodland across from their Pines Lake Drive West home in the 1940s. Over the next five decades, they transformed the property into Laurelwood Gardens, a renowned nursery specializing in unique hybrid varieties.

The couple's work in hybridization earned them widespread recognition and respect in the horticultural community. The arboretum, a testament to their dedication, now houses hundreds of unusual azaleas and rhododendrons.

botanical garden NOT a bot. garden; (for trees)

Read this article and answer the following questions, with a short answer or a written paragraph.

1. What does the word 'horticulture' refer to here, as a science discipline as well as a profession? Look it up in the dictionary/online and write down your answers. Try to re-describe it from any definitions.

horticulture is the art and science of growing fruits, vegetables, flowers, trees, ... plants, especially garden, greenhouse, rather than on large-scale farms.

Lesson 5 (Homework 3, Solution by Susan)

Dorothy, an accomplished artist and horticulturist, created unique special gardens throughout the arboretum, each reflecting her creativity and horticultural expertise.

In 1963, the Knippenbergs made a commitment to preserving their beloved gardens and entered into an agreement with the Township of Wayne to bequeath the property as a public horticultural park for future generations. In 2006, the property was officially deeded to the Township and opened to the public as Laurelwood Arboretum. A year later, the Township formalized a partnership with the nonprofit organization, Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum, to oversee the park's maintenance and management.

Through the collaboration between the Township and the nonprofit organization, Laurelwood Arboretum has flourished. A strong network of individual and corporate volunteers working both on-site and behind the scenes has been essential to its success. Friends of Laurelwood Arboretum has enhanced the arboretum's infrastructure, adding the Sensory Garden, the Knippenberg Center for Education, two greenhouses (upper and lower), the Native Habitat Garden, the Environmental Preserve, and several storage buildings.

2. How much is an acre (of area)? For example, look up the size of a basketball court, and calculate (write down process and result) how many acre(s) is a basketball court.

$$28\text{m} \times 15\text{m} = 420\text{m}^2$$

$$1\text{ acre} = 4046.86\text{m}^2$$

Lesson 5 (Homework 3, Solution by Susan)

Today, Laurelwood Arboretum is a 30-acre haven for botanical diversity, featuring serene woodland trails, vibrant gardens, diverse wildlife, two ponds, and streams. Meandering gravel paths invite visitors to explore its natural beauty, making it a perfect destination for nature lovers, hikers, runners, birdwatchers, artists, and photographers.

Ongoing memberships, donations, volunteer support, and public funding help sustain this extraordinary property. Laurelwood Arboretum will continue to serve as an oasis of inspiration, renewal, and tranquility for generations of visitors to come.

begin again
after a pause

quiet
(n.)
e.g.,
peace;
"being quiet"

a basketball court =
0.103784 acres

3. When were the Knippenbergs (the couple) born, or in which decade did they grow up, approximately?

~~1940~~ - 50 \approx 1890. e.g. 1940 - (35) \approx 1910s

4. What's the meaning of the word 'bequeath'? And here, explain in your own words what it means to "bequeath the property as a public park" by/from the Knippenberg family?

① "bequeath" means to say in a will that you want somebody to have your property, money etc.

② It means that Knippenberg family wrote a will in which the family declare that the family's property should be donated as a public garden.

1963 - Wrote to them

Lesson 5 (Homework 3, Solution by Susan)

5. From the last paragraph, "Laurelwood Arboretum will continue to serve as an oasis of inspiration, renewal, .."
Which of the following is a valid (or, the best option) equivalent to the underlined word above?

- ☒ A. reason
- ☒ B. incentive
- C. effort
- ☒ D. sanctuary
- E. good example
- F. beginning

encourage sth that you to do sth. ① a pleasant place or time.

(n.) ② an area in the desert where there is water, plants grow.

where there is water
where plants grow

6. If the Arboretum is 30-acre by size of area, based on the Passaic County in New Jersey and if assume it is a residential place (e.g. a house with yards), find the (estimate) monthly tax it is expected to owe the government.

Assuming these real estate properties are worth 50 million US dollars,
(50,000,000)
the tax rate of 2.23% in New Jersey, the annual tax would be 1,115,000 US dollars
(property)
so, monthly tax would be \$92,916.67.

7. Fill in the blanks below for vocabulary,

rhododendron	a bush with large red, purple, pink, or white flowers
azalea	a plant or bush with large flowers, may be pink, purple, ...
legacy	money or property that is given to you by sb. when they died.
vibrant	full of life and energy
hybrid	animal or plant that has parents of different species. (sth. mixing two or more things)
commitment	① promise ② willingness to work hard.
meander	① curve river, road ② walk slowly and change direction
acquire	to gain sth by your own efforts
habitat	the place where a particular type of animal or plant is found.
sustain	to provide what sb/sth needs in order to live or exist.