

# Seth Boyden Children's Arboretum

at Seth Boyden Elementary  
274 Boyden Avenue, Maplewood, NJ

NORTH



## WELCOME!

We hope you are ready to **DISCOVER, EXPLORE, and IMAGINE!**

Each of the **MARKERS** along the Nature Story Trail will introduce you to something **NEW** to **THINK** about in relation to our marvelous **YARD** and its **TREES** and **GARDENS**.

Take your **TIME** to come back often - there is always more to **LEARN!**

# The Nature Story Trail of the Seth Boyden Arboretum

One of the things that sets human beings apart is their capacity, or some might even say their need, to tell stories. Indeed, one of the first things children learn at school is how to tell – or write, or draw – a story. In the telling, or the retelling, they learn not only about their subject, but how to give shape to their world and their life.

When we conceived of the children's arboretum, we almost immediately began planning it as a story trail, a trail that would include small stories about all kinds of things: the history of this place, the histories of the trees that grow here, the history of the wider natural world. The hope was not only to tell stories the kids would learn from and remember, but also to inspire them to tell stories of their own: to keep the trail going.

There are three story boards at each of the 12 stops on our trail. The first board introduces the topic: it tells the story. The second asks some basic questions, questions that can often be answered with a bit of looking right around the yard; the third board has more open-ended questions, questions intended to get us thinking, or writing. These are questions we hope will grow with the children, so that revisited over several years, they might elicit a different and bigger thought. They are fine for a Saturday afternoon stroll with the family, questions that might linger and expand as the day progresses; they are good for a child's solitary contemplation during recess. But we hope they also will be used by the school's and the district's teachers as jumping off points for all sorts of lessons, and all sorts of stories.

*Outdoor Learning Committee, Seth Boyden PTA, 2018*

## Inventory of Trees

1 River Birch	22 Black Cherry	43 Plane Tree	62a Apple	80 Black Cherry	101 Pin Oak
2 Kousa Dogwood	23 Red Maple	44 White Pine	62b Apple	81 Kwanzan Cherry	102 Silver Bell
3 Nellie R. Stevens Holly	24 Red Maple	45 Tulip Tree	62c Apple	82 Silver Maple	103 Sourwood
4 White Oak	25 Red Maple	46 Scarlet Oak	63 Peach	83 Silver Maple	104 Red Maple
5 Crab Apple	26 Juneberry	47 Hackberry	64 Kentucky Coffeetree	84 Silver Maple	105 Red Maple
6 Pin Oak	27 Juneberry	48 Dogwood	65 Apple	85 Willow Oak	106 White Pine
7 Pin Oak	28 Nectar Plants	49 Dogwood	66 Apple	86 Chestnut	107 Bradford Pear
8 Nellie R. Stevens Holly	29 Butterfly Food Plants	50 Dogwood	67 Apple	87 Willow Oak	108 Bradford Pear
9 Crab Apple	30 Red Maple	51 Hackberry	68 Pear	88 Crab Apple	109 Black Cherry
10 Nellie R. Stevens Holly	31 Red Maple	52 Sweetbay Magnolia	69 Crepe Myrtle	89 White Pine	110 Oriental Spruce
11 Nellie R. Stevens Holly	32 Redbud	53 Tulip Tree	69a Juneberry	90 Kentucky Yellowwood	111 Northern Red Oak
12 Dogwood	33 Amur Maackia	54 Scarlet Oak	70 Red Maple	91 Tulip Tree	112 Dawn Redwood
13 Dogwood	34 White Mulberry	55 Zelkova	71 Plane Tree	92 Tulip Tree	113 Black Walnut
14 Black Cherry	35 White Pine	56 Zelkova	72 Red Maple	93 American Holly	114 American Sycamore
15 Pin Oak	36 White Pine	57 Zelkova	73 Dogwood	94 American Holly	115 American Sycamore
16 Habitat Plants	37 White Pine	58a Bradford Pear	74 Dogwood	95 American Holly	116 American Sycamore
17 White Pine	38 Plane Tree	58b Bradford Pear	75 Dogwood	96 Goldenrain	117 American Sycamore
18 Sweet Gum	39 Hackberry	58c Bradford Pear	76 Red Maple	97 American Holly	
19 Sweet Gum	40 Plane Tree	59 Redbud	77 Dogwood	98 Kousa Dogwood	
20 Sweet Gum	41 Plane Tree	60 Sugar Maple	78 Eastern Red Cedar	99 Saucer Magnolia	
21 Habitat Shrubs	42 Hackberry	61 Traditional Apple	79 Black Cherry	100 Black Locust	