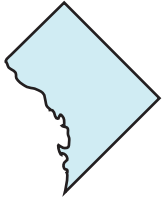


Name: _____

Famous Gardens Throughout the World



The White House Garden: In March 2009, First Lady, Michelle Obama, with the help of White House staff and twenty-three 5th grade students from Bancroft Elementary School, broke ground for an organic fruit and vegetable garden. The garden was planted with a variety of green leafy vegetables, such as lettuce and spinach, as well as broccoli, peas, radishes, carrots and onions. Fruits included rhubarb, and blueberries, blackberries and raspberries. There were also a variety of herbs, including parsley, sage, rosemary, thyme, cilantro, hyssop, chamomile and dill. The crops grown in the White House garden were used to feed the First Family, and citizens at local soup kitchens. The First Lady started the garden not only for the food it would produce, but also to encourage other groups of Americans to grow their own community gardens. She hopes these gardens will make fresh food available to more people and help everyone eat healthier. The White House organic garden is located on the South lawn. The White House, itself, is in Washington, D.C., the capital of the United States. It is surrounded by the states of Maryland and Virginia.



Valmer Terrace Gardens: The gardens at Chateau de Valmer sit on the side of a hill overlooking the Brenne, a tributary of the Loire River. Located just southwest of Paris, in a region referred to as the "Garden of France" these beautiful gardens have been carved out of the hillside and organized into eight levels of terraces. One of the gardens in particular, the vegetable garden, is known worldwide for growing approximately 900 types of organic fruits and vegetables, some of which are very unusual. Visitors to this unique vegetable garden learn about the wild seeds that were once used to grow food, and how they have been adapted to grow the vegetables we eat today. This garden is a lesson in history, located in the perfect spot, with the perfect climate for growing food.



Maikaal Bio-Dynamic Cotton Farm in India: Textiles are one of India's leading exports, and cotton is an important crop grown in that country. One of the problems facing the cotton farmers in today's environmentally conscious world is how to grow organic cotton while still making a reasonable profit. Bio-dynamic farming methods are proving to be the answer. The Maikaal Project was begun by a Swiss company. At the Maikaal farms, which are located in central India, in Madhya Pradesh, one of India's largest states, bio-dynamic methods are being used to grow cotton. Bio-dynamic methods improve the soil and keep it healthy. By adding special compost to the soil it is able to hold more water, so the land needs less irrigation. This means the soil is richer, more fertile and better for growing. As farmers learned about the success at the Maikaal Project, and other projects like it, they tried the same methods. Now, not only cotton, but other crops, including fruits, vegetables, grains, coffee, tea and spices are grown all over India on both large and small farms using bio-dynamics.



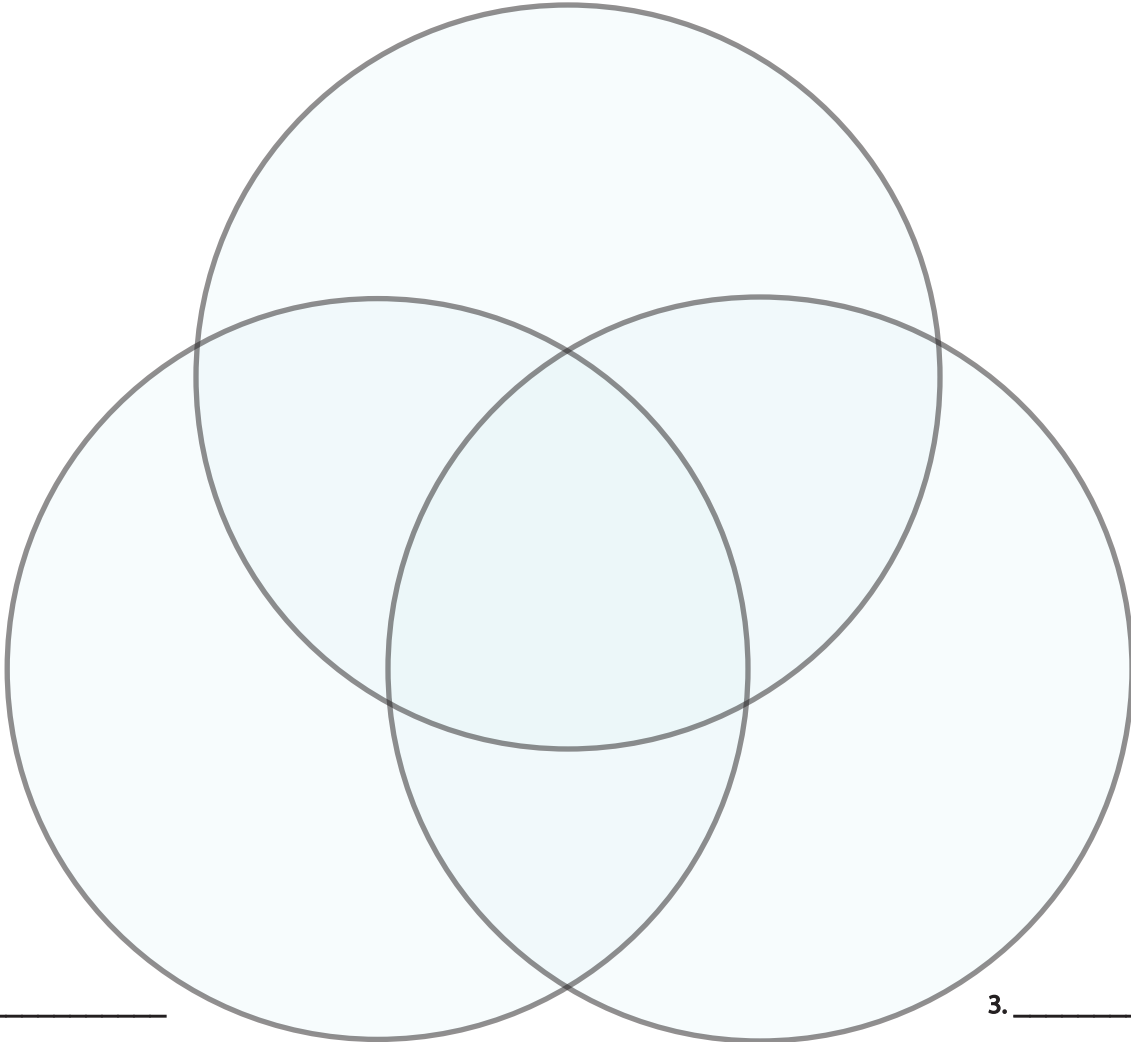
Limbe Botanical Gardens in Cameroon: The Limbe Botanical Gardens were developed in 1892 by people of German descent. It was once one of the most important botanical gardens where crops such as coffee, sugar cane, rubber, palm oil, and banana, were introduced and distributed to the world. However, ownership transferred several times over the years between 1920 and 1988 and the gardens suffered during that time. In 1988 a partnership was formed between the peoples of Cameroon and Britain and the gardens were renovated and restored. These gardens now cover 48 hectares or approximately 119 acres. The purpose of the botanical gardens has changed over the years and instead of focusing on agriculture they now serve as a center for conservation and sustainable use of the local rainforests, for scientific studies of the natural resources that benefit mankind, and to promote tourism and recreation. The gardens are located in the coastal foothills of Mount Cameroon, which is in the country of Cameroon, a coastal nation on the continent of Africa.



Triple Venn Diagram

Directions: Research the garden given to your group by your teacher. Create a Venn Diagram comparing the new garden to two of the previously described gardens on the handout. Be sure to include the five main points listed in the presentation materials. Write a paragraph to describe your findings below.

1. _____



2. _____

3. _____

2009 World Map

