FAMILY GARDEN TRAIL

Welcome to the Palace of Holyroodhouse gardens. Explore this historic garden and search the giant lawns and woodland paths for local wildlife.

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**Look for the sun and moon dial**

This clever statue was designed to help you tell the time using the light from the sun or the moon. It is nearly 400 years old and was made for Mary, Queen of Scots’ grandson, Charles I. Mary liked spending time here too. She held a special type of tournament involving two knights on horseback, carrying heavy lances charging towards each other.

**Can you spot any wildlife as you follow the path?**

There are lots of squirrels, birds and even a fox den in this wooded area.

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Before you go into the garden, look around the cobbled space outside the Abbey.

Believe it or not, this used to be the home of the Royal Animal Menagerie. Menageries were a collection of exotic animals. King James VI kept a lion, tiger and an ape!

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**Imagine you have jumped back in time to hear the fiddler play.**

Do you remember the story of David Rizzio? Some people say this is a statue of him because he was known for being a great musician. The wind and the rain have caused quite a lot of damage to his face.

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Unscramble these letters to find out what it was called

JINGOTSU
**Royal Staircase**

The Queen and other members of the royal family use this stone staircase to walk down to the summer Garden Party, held here every year. The staircase is covered in a red carpet in preparation. 8,000 guests are invited to the party. 15,000 cups of tea are drunk. 9,000 strawberry tarts and 7,000 sandwiches are eaten. The serving table is 150 metres long! During the garden party, a brass band plays.

**Abbey Ruins**

The Abbey used to be much bigger than it looks today. These are the ruins of the other half of the Abbey. It was built in the shape of a cross. Look carefully, can you make out the cross shape? (Remember to include the part of the building behind you)

Look for a half circle of stones on the lawn nearby. This was originally a circular building, known as a Chapter House where the Abbey monks would go to read the Bible each morning.

**Soldiers Guard Box**

When members of the Royal Family stay at the Palace, soldiers protect the building at the front and at the back. They guard the building 24 hours a day. You are welcome to stand inside the guard box one at a time!

Imagine you are a guardsman for the Palace. Draw yourself here.

**HaHa!**

Royal palaces need strong security. There is actually a 2 metre wall all around the garden. It is cleverly hidden behind a design of flowers and grass, known as a ha-ha! Can you work out where the hidden wall is? Move along the path until you get a good view.

**Create your dream menu here.**

**CONGRATULATIONS! You’ve reached the end of the trail. The path will now lead you back on to the Forecourt. We hope you enjoyed exploring the Palace Gardens.**