Design Your Own Garden

The Peter family of Tudor Place designed their own garden to decorate their home. Each generation of the family added their own touches, including a lawn tennis court, fountains with statues, and plants to attract animals. In this activity, students create drawings of their own dream gardens.

After completing this activity, students will be better able to:

- Think creatively about their interests
- Convert abstract ideas (“I like turtles”) into design choices (“I want a turtle pond in my garden.”)
- Express their interests and preferences with artwork
- Explain the reasoning behind artistic choices (“I put yellow flowers in because my favorite color is yellow.”)

Materials
- “Design Your Own Garden” worksheet, 1 per student
- Drawing/Coloring tools
- (Optional) Construction paper, garden magazines to cut out and embellish drawings
- (Optional) Glue to attach construction paper or magazine cutouts

Procedure
1. Distribute worksheets to each student to complete.
2. Encourage students to add things that reflect their interests. Give examples like colorful flowers, statues of pets, spaces to play sports, sparkling fountains, etc.
3. Students draw or color their gardens.
4. (Optional) Students cut out garden elements, such as flowers, fountains, and statues, from magazines to embellish their gardens, and glue them in place.
5. Ask students to share their gardens and describe the reasons for their choices.
6. Explain to the students that they will encounter the Peter family’s design choices and interests when they visit the garden at Tudor Place.
Tudor Place’s Garden

- Tudor Place Historic Mansion
- DC Millennium Tree
- 200-year-old boxwood plants
- East Lawn, used as a tennis court in the early 1900s
- Future site of Butterfly Garden
- Bat house for sustainable mosquito control
- 1914 garage with 1910 sports car and 1960s fallout shelter
- Historic Mansion

Tudor Place Historic House & Garden | 1644 31st Street, NW, Washington, DC 20007 | 202-965-0400 | education@tudorplace.org
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The Peter family created a beautiful garden for their home at Tudor Place. What things would you put in a garden of your own? Draw your dream garden in the box.

This garden was designed by ____________________________.