

# 'Stories in the Garden'

## *Key Stage 1*

Take your imagination for a walk in the magical Charleston gardens. Discover an enchanting world of secret statues, hidden paths, curious doorways, fragrant fruit trees and flowers of every shape and colour.

What stories could these gardens tell?

- **Activity 1 - Adjective Explorers**
- **Activity 2 - Storytelling Statues**
- **Activity 3 - The Fox, The Mouse, The Owl**
- **Activity 4 - Tales of the Apple Tree**
- **Activity 5 - Story Map**

Resource created by Holly Dawson in partnership with Charleston.

◆ CHARLESTON ◆

# Adjective Explorers

Look at this list of adjectives (describing words) below.  
What can you find around the gardens that matches these words?

Colourful

Beautiful

Soft

Handmade

Fragrant

Surprising

Spiky

Funny

Tall

Rough

Delicate

Crumbling

Unusual

Old

Hidden

Seasonal

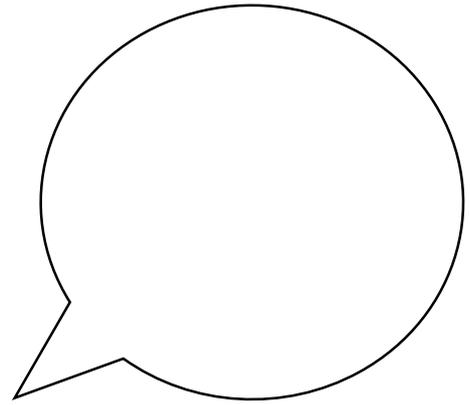
Can you come up with some good describing words of your own to describe one of the statues, objects or plants?

What words describe how the garden makes you feel?

## Storytelling Statues

Which statues can you find hidden behind trees, perching on walls, waiting at the end of pathways or levitating by the lake?

Have a go at drawing or describing your favourite statue.



If this statue could talk, what do you think it would say?

What can it see, hear, smell, feel?

What stories would it tell?

What statue would you be and why?

## The Fox, The Mouse, The Owl

You are exploring the gardens in the daytime – but what do you think they would be like at night?

Imagine you are a stealthy fox, a tiny mouse or a beautiful swooping owl, visiting the Charleston gardens after everyone has left.

What do you see?

Can you peep through the windows?

What do you hear?

What can you smell?

Where do you like to go in the garden?

What shadows can you see?

Do the statues spook you or do you stop and talk to them?

How does the garden feel at night time?

# Tales of the Apple Tree

Can you find one of the many apple trees in the garden?

Some of these trees are very old. If they could talk, they would tell us lots of stories of everything they have seen over the years.

They have lived through the Second World War, with planes flying overhead and the sound of bombs and battles in the distance. They have lived through Vanessa's children being born and turning into adults. They have seen the gardens become a place that we all visit. Lots of different gardeners have looked after them. Their delicious apples have been picked and eaten by hundreds of different people over the years – maybe even important and famous visitors to Charleston.

Try telling the tale of the apple tree.

Who planted it?

What has it seen in the garden as it has grown up?

Who has it met?

Who has climbed it, played around it, sat under it, picked its apples?

What can it see, hear, smell and feel as it stands in the gardens?

How does it feel about being an apple tree at Charleston?

## Story Map

Draw a map of the gardens. Think about where to put the lake, the statues, the paths, the trees, the fountain, the benches and archways.

Draw a character somewhere on your map and take it for a walk.

Write down or tell someone the story of what adventures your character has.

