The Living and The Non-Living

While you are hiking at The Morton Arboretum, look for the following items. See how many you can find during your visit.

Note: The Morton Arboretum is a tree museum. We have trees, flowers and nature the way an art museum has paintings and sculptures. Would you take a painting home from an art museum? Please be sure to leave our “paintings” for all the visitors to enjoy!

Non-Living (abiotic) Things

- Dew drops on a leaf
- Smooth rock
- Rough rock
- Water
- Sunlight under a tree
- Sunlight in an open area
- Clouds
- Water in a pond
- Dry soil
- Wet soil

Living (biotic) Things

- Flat leaf
- Leaf with pointy edges
- Pine needles
- Insects on the bark of a tree
- Lichen on a twig
- Moss on bark
- Moss on the ground
- Roots of a plant
- Squirrel
- Chipmunk
- Worm
- Bird
- Two different kinds of flowers
- Two different kinds of seeds
- Decaying log (do you see any insects?)

Signs of living things

- Bird nest
- Hole in the ground made by an animal
- Spider web
- Animal scat
- Feather
- Bug holes on leaves
- Partially eaten nuts