



3. Find three flowering plants that you like and describe them. Include their names if you can find a label. What do you like about them?

a.

b.

c.

4. Find at least one plant that does not have flowers. Describe it. What do you like about it?

5. Since Kennywood has been around for over 100 years, there are many large, mature trees. Trees are very important in Kennywood and are planted everywhere possible.

What benefits do trees provide? Which benefit do you think is most important here? Why?

a.

b.

c.

d.

The most important benefit trees provide to park visitors is \_\_\_\_\_.

6. Many trees in the Park have labels that provide information about the tree. Some trees are native to the United States. That means they were found growing in this part of the country before colonization.

Find three different kinds of native trees in the park. Write their name and draw a picture of the leaf.

a.

b.

c.



## ***Taking care of the plants***

One full-time and one part-time person take care of all of the flowers and other plants in Kennywood. How do they do this with all of the people in the park? You guessed it; they get up early and begin work at 6 a.m. so they can get everything watered by 11 a.m. when the park opens.

### **Integrated Pest Management (IPM)**

Some insects feed on plants. Most insects are harmless, but some are not. There are also diseases that can affect plants. These insects and diseases (pests) need to be controlled or the plants may be damaged. This damage may affect how the plants look or it may actually kill the plants. A damaged tree may become a safety problem because a branch or the entire tree could fall.

Fortunately, Kennywood usually has very few problems with insects and diseases on plants. By choosing plants that grow best in each area (sun or shade, wet or dry) and taking care of them, especially watering properly, most plants will have few problems.

When Kennywood does have pest problems, they use Integrated Pest Management. Integrated Pest Management, also called IPM, is an important method of controlling insect and disease problems on plants. It usually makes it possible for plants to thrive without using chemicals, which could be poisonous. This is especially important in a place such as Kennywood where so many people come.

There are three steps in integrated pest management.

1. Identify the plant. You need to know what type of plant it is.
2. Identify the problem. Figure out what is causing the problem.
3. Start with the least toxic method of control.

IPM combines different controls for particular problems, starting with the least harmful to the environment. Hosing off plants with water can take care of some pest problems. One part of IPM may be using beneficial insects. These are insects that naturally eat harmful insects. Ladybugs are beneficial insects. They eat aphids, an insect that can be harmful to plants. Some ladybugs may come to the park on their own, but you can also buy ladybugs and release them in an area where aphids are present. Kennywood does this sometimes.

1. What does IPM stand for?
2. Why would IPM be important in a public place such as Kennywood?