

Rhododendron Family Challenge

This year, 2021, marks a centennial at Heritage! We are celebrating 100 years of rhododendrons - some of our very favorite flowers - growing here! One hundred years ago, a man named Charles Owen Dexter brought land that he called Shawme Farm, which today is Heritage Museums & Gardens. Mr. Dexter's hobby was growing plants. He lived here for 22 years, and fell in love with a flowering plant called rhododendron. He started making new types of rhododendrons that had never existed before.

We are grateful to Mr. Dexter for helping to make Heritage the beautiful place it is today! Complete these challenges to explore and learn more.



Smell Well

Unlike many other flowers, rhododendrons don't often have a smell. Mr. Dexter did create a few scented varieties.

Follow your nose and see if you can find one! Look for the label and record its name here:

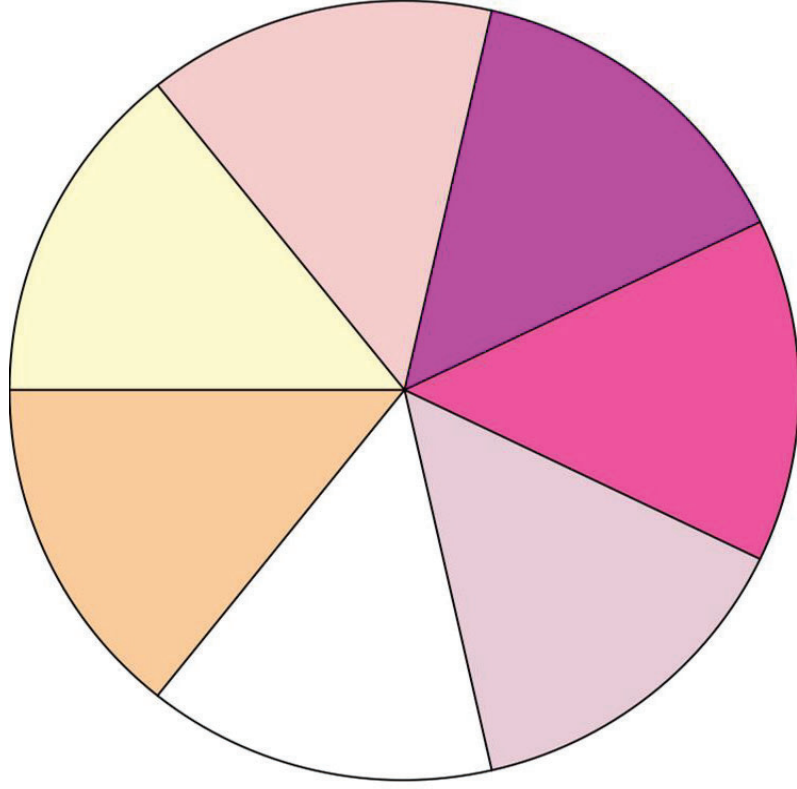


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A Colorful Collection

Dexter loved the variety and cheerful colors of rhododendrons. See how many colors of rhododendrons you can find. Write the name of each plant in the matching color or tally up the colors as you find them! Can you find all 7 colors?



Feel it out!

Try touching the leaves of a rhododendron, how do they feel? Circle your answers below.

You may choose more than one.

Soft Rough Smooth

Bumpy Thick Thin

Look closely at the top and the bottom of the leaves.

Are they the same? Are there any differences you notice?

Sketch the shape of a rhododendron leaf below: