Where in the World was David Douglas?

David Douglas traveled from England to “Oregon Country” on a ship. He was at sea for many months. Look on the globe and find his route.

Which continent did his ship go around to reach the west coast of North America?

When he reached the Columbia River, David paddled upstream in a canoe to Fort Vancouver. Look on the map of Oregon and find Fort Vancouver.

David also traveled through the Willamette Valley in search of plants to send back to England. Which mountain range lies to the east of the Willamette River?

Use a compass to find the west wall of the gallery. What is on this wall?

Who was David Douglas?

David Douglas was an explorer and plant collector who visited Oregon and Washington in the early 1800s for the Royal Horticultural Society in England.

Douglas traveled along the Columbia and Willamette Rivers looking for plants and seeds to send back to England where many now grow in gardens and forests.

More than 80 species of plants, trees and animals are named after Douglas and he collected seeds from more than 200 different plants in the Pacific Northwest.

But that’s not all! Douglas also climbed several mountains, studied the animals that live here, and described how Northwest native tribes used plants for food, clothing, basketry, housing, traveling and medicine.
ACTIVITY STATION 2

Color and Create: Native Plants

A native plant is a species that has been here for a very long time. Some kinds of plants and trees have lived in Oregon for thousands of years.

Look at the pictures to find out which native plant contains the name of our state. (Write the name below.)

________________________________________________

Color a plant drawing (on a clipboard). Find a painting of your plant on the gallery walls to use as a guide.

What color is the flower? Is there more than one color?

________________________________________________

Does your plant have leaves? What color are they?

________________________________________________

ACTIVITY STATION 3

Name that Tree

David Douglas brought seeds from Oregon trees to England and Scotland where they grew into great forests.

Look at the tree pictures. Which tree is named for him?

_______________________________________________

Conifer trees have needles that don’t fall off in the winter. Most of them have cones, which contain their seeds.

Which kind of tree has the biggest cone?

_______________________________________________

Wood from trees is used to build houses, boats, fences and many other things. Think of something in your house that is made of wood and draw that item in the box below.

[Box for drawing]

ACTIVITY STATION 4

The House That David Built

During his time in Oregon Country, David Douglas lived in a hut made from western redcedar trees. Find the baskets in the gallery that are made from cedar bark.

Look at the label next to each basket. Name two other plants that were used to make them.

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________________________________________________

David collected plants then pressed them to take back to England. Can you find his plant press in the cedar hut?

He also dried plants to collect their seeds and picked berries and put them in jars. What is your favorite berry?

________________________________________________

Congratulations, you finished all the activities! Visit SalemArt.org to download a parent-teacher guide with more information about this exhibit.