The United States Botanic Garden is located in downtown Washington DC, near the grounds of the United States Capitol in Washington, D.C. The address: 100 Maryland Ave SW, Washington, DC 20001.
You can find information on how to get there at www.usbg.gov. Admission is free, and the conservatory is open every day, 10am to 5pm. You can find answers to all of these questions in the exhibits of the Conservatory (indoors).

For each response, be sure to include the plant’s common name (i.e. corn) and its Latin name (i.e. Zea mays).

You must accompany this assignment with a picture of you in the Garden Court.

Start this assignment in the Garden Court and then proceed clockwise through the exhibits.

Garden Court Exhibit

1. What type of flower does vanilla come from? What are Vanilla’s native pollinator? Where is it originally from? Is there a problem with natural pollination where it is mostly grown now?

2. Find the cacao tree. What is its proper botanical name? What is the natural pollinator of the flowers of the cacao tree? When the beans from the cacao tree are first scrapped from the pod; are they sweet, sour or bitter? What process occurs before the beans are dried?

3. Where is coffee native to? Is the coffee part that is used for the drink a fruit or a seed? How long does it take for coffee to ripen?

4. Find the coconut tree in the Garden court. Where is it from? What is the proper name of the coconut tree? Is a coconut a nut?

5. Name the Chinese citrus plant next to the coconut tree.

Plant Adaptations Exhibit

Explain why it is a good idea to plant beans between rows of corn.
Garden Primeval Exhibit
1. Which plant organ is missing from all these plants?
2. Name the tree fern from Australia in this room.
3. Name the large cycad from the Cape province in this room.

Hawaii exhibit
Name two plants from Hawaii which are on the archway to the entrance of this exhibit.

World Deserts exhibit
1. Give the botanic and common name of an echinocactus species in this room.
2. Name two ways that cacti are well adapted to conserve water.
3. What types of food are made from prickly pear cactus?
4. Find the Blue Cycad (Encephalartos horridus). What is so special about this plant at the Botanical Gardens?

Tropical Forest Area
1. When in bloom, what tree-like plant attracts insect pollinators by its own putrid stench?
2. What tropical plant of the genus Monstera refers in its common name to a type of cheese?
3. What is the common name of the plant that has distinctive pink tips on the end of its leaves?

Medicinal Plants exhibit
Medicinal plants in the news
1. From which plant in this room does caffeine come from (there may be more than one)?
2. What is turmeric used for medicinally?
Over the Counter Remedies

3. Name a plant in this room useful for treating sunburn.

4. Find the papaya tree. Where is it from? Are there fruit on the papaya tree? What value would there be in ingesting the seeds of the papaya?

Orchid exhibit

1. Find two species of orchids with “fun” names in this room and give their common names.

2. After looking at their flowers; do you think orchids have pollinators? Why yes or why no.

Mediterranean exhibit

1. Name Mediterranean regions outside of Europe or North Africa.

2. What color are all ripe olives?

Rare and Endangered Exhibit

List one critically endangered plant in this exhibit.

Name one plant in the Conservatory that really interested you, and explain why:

END OF ASSIGNMENT