Other points of interest:

- **Beehive** – bees are important for pollination! Without bees, there would be fewer fruits and vegetables for us to eat. Did you know that 80% of the pollination of the fruits, vegetables and seed crops in the U.S. is accomplished by honeybees?
- **Orchard** – an orchard is a group of fruit trees. Fruit could be harvested and eaten fresh, preserved and stored for later use, or sold at a produce stand. Can you find a fruit you’ve never eaten before?
- **Sugar Bush** – a sugar bush is a grouping of sugar maple trees. In the early spring, before he leaves grow, the trees are tapped, the sap collected, then the sap is cooked down and made into maple syrup in a building like our Sugar Shack. Did you know it takes 40 gallons of sap to make just 1 gallon of maple syrup?
- **Herb Garden** – herbs add flavor to many things we eat. Can you find an herb that smells like pizza or gum (hint: gently rub the leaves then sniff)?
- **The Pump** – the pump was used to fill the stock tank with water. The water then could be used for the animals or in the garden. Help fill the tank by taking turns pumping the handle.
- **The Bell** – the bell was rung when it was time for the farm family to gather, particularly for a meal. Ring the bell two times to call your group together.

**Chaperone Responsibilities**

Welcome to Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park. We are pleased you are able to join us today. As a chaperone, your responsibilities are:

1. To stay with your group and keep them together at all times.
2. To facilitate the learning experience by helping the students to stay engaged.
3. To model and monitor good behavior. Please review, then ask your students to repeat the “Kids’ Pledge” below.

**Kids’ Pledge**

- I pledge to stay with my group at all times.
- I pledge to stay on the garden paths.
- I pledge that I will NOT climb on the sculptures.
- I pledge to use a quiet voice and be a good listener.
- I pledge to be considerate of other visitors and Meijer Gardens property.

Thank you for your help to make this visit a positive learning experience.
Produce Stand
Most of the produce harvested from the garden was eaten fresh or preserved and stored for later use. If there was extra, it may have been sold at a produce stand. Direct your group to take turns pretending to buy and sell produce.

Farm House
The farmhouse was where the farm family would eat, sleep and play. It was one of the most important buildings on the farm! Our farmhouse was designed to resemble the farmhouse that Lena Rader Meijer grew up in. It has a large front porch and many rocking chairs—perfect for sitting, relaxing, or visiting with friends after a long day of work. While relaxing on the porch, create a story about life on a farm by taking turns adding to the story.

Outhouse
This building was important to the entire farm family and was often found with tall flowers (such as hollyhocks) or shrubs planted nearby. Have your group take turns guessing what this building was used for and/or why farm families placed tall plants around it.*

* Toll plants would not only act as a screen to block the view of the outhouse but would also indicate to guests where the “facilities” were without having to ask.

Barn
The barn was very important to farm families. It was a building that provided shelter for farm animals, storage for farm equipment and food for the animals. Our barn is over 100 years old! If this was your barn, what types of animals would you keep here? Take turns having your group describe the animal they would keep. What would that animal eat? What sounds would that animal make?

Farm Tools
Look inside the barn. Do you see the tools hanging on the wall? Each of these tools would have been used on a farm. Have each member of your group choose a tool and see if they can name it. Ask them to tell what it might have been used for. Look under the numbered door to see if they are right.

Corn Crib
A corn crib was a place to store extra field corn for the animals to eat, particularly in the winter. They typically have open spaces between the wooden slats on the walls. Why do you think that is?* Pretend the people in your group are ears of corn—how many of you fit into our corn crib?

* The spaces between the slats provide air circulation for the corn, so the cobs dry out instead of rotting.