



# Outdoor Self Guide

# The Getty Villa

## Use your senses

In the year 79 a.d. a volcano in Italy named Mt. Vesuvius erupted! An ancient Italian house nearby was buried by volcanic mud that preserved it for nearly 2000 years. The gardens at the Getty Villa are based on ones that would have been found at a similar type of ancient house. Ancient Romans used herbs in the gardens for cooking, ceremonies, and medicine. Let's find our way to the herb garden to begin the activity.

### Get a team

Get into groups of 3 and begin to explore the herb garden. Assign one person to be the eyes, one person to be the hands and one person to be the nose.

### If you are the:

#### eyes



Choose three different herbs for your group. Examine closely using only your eyes.

#### nose



Use your sense of smell to examine these herbs. Don't be afraid to get close to sniff.

#### hands



Gently rub the herbs through your fingers (don't pick them). Note how it feels.

### Discuss

1. Note some of the names of the herbs in Latin and English. Are they similar? Discuss with your group.
2. Discuss with your partners what you noticed about the sight, feel, and smell of the herbs you picked out. Try trading roles.

### Keep going

Individually fill out the next page then come back together and compare it with your group.

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## Questions (answer individually)

### 1. Draw

Pick one of the herbs to draw. What does it look like? Sketch details to try to capture the texture, shape, and size of the herb.

### 2. Describe

What does the herb smell like? Does it remind you of anything?

### 3. Imagine

We know herbs were used for cooking, ceremonies, and medicine in Ancient Rome. What would you use?

### 4. Get together

Now that you've done this, go back and compare with your group.



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