Millennium Park

Bold Planners

Big Dreamers

You

A Field Trip Guide
Bold Planner Profile

Your name:
__________________________________________

Today’s date:
__________________________________________

Things you like to do:
__________________________________________

Your plans for the future:
__________________________________________

Your big idea for Chicago:
__________________________________________

Field Trip Guide

Contents

Map ......................................................... 2
Notes for Teachers ................................. 7
Notes for Big Dreamers ....................... 10

Features

Millennium Park Train Station ............ 14
Jay Pritzker Pavilion ......................... 16
Great Lawn ............................................. 18
BP Bridge .............................................. 20
Lurie Garden ......................................... 22
Nichols Bridgeway ............................... 24
Crown Fountain ................................. 26
Cloud Gate ............................................ 28
Millennium Monument ....................... 30

Your Notes on Places in the Park ........ 32
Blank Pages for Shapes, Questions,
Ideas, Observations, Sketches, Maps ...... 34

This field trip guide was developed for the 2009 Burnham Plan Centennial as part of its Bold Plans, Big Dreams Education initiative supported by the Polk Bros. Foundation. Its goal is to help teachers and students make the city itself a vital part of the curriculum.

This guide is available for download at www.burnhamplan100.org.
Exelon Pavilions: Millennium Park Welcome Center

The four Exelon Pavilions, which use state-of-the-art technology to convert solar energy into electricity, are an integral part of Chicago’s efforts to become the most environmentally-friendly city in North America. Together, the Pavilions provide enough electricity annually to power 16 energy-efficient houses in Chicago.

The northwest and northeast Pavilions are minimalist black cubes designed to complement the neighboring Joan W. and Irving B. Harris Theater for Music and Dance. The northwest Pavilion houses the Millennium Park Welcome Center, as well as an Exelon energy display area. The northeast Pavilion provides pedestrian access to the parking garage below.

The two Exelon Pavilions on the park’s south end also provide pedestrian access to the Millennium Park Garage, and were designed by architect Renzo Piano to complement The Art Institute’s future expansion.

Joan W. and Irving B. Harris Theater for Music and Dance

This popular venue is home to several mid-sized music and dance companies, with performances ranging from ballet and African dance to classical, chamber and folk music. The 1,525-seat theater was designed by Hammond Beeby Rupprecht Ainge (HBRA) Architects and boasts excellent sight lines and acoustics.

McDonald’s Cycle Center

This 300-space, heated indoor bicycle parking facility designed by Muller & Muller, Ltd. provides lockers, showers, a snack bar with outdoor summer seating, bike repair, bike rental, bike parking and other amenities designed to encourage biking to the Park and work.

Jay Pritzker Pavilion

Winner of the Pritzker Prize in Architecture and the National Medal of Art, Frank Gehry applied his signature style to this revolutionary outdoor concert venue. The Pavilion stands 120-feet-high, with a billowing “headdress” of brushed stainless steel ribbons that frame the proscenium opening and connect to an overhead trellis of crisscrossing steel pipes. The trellis supports the sound system, which mimics the acoustics of a concert hall by distributing enhanced sound equally to the 4,000 fixed seats, and over the Great Lawn, which accommodates an additional 7,000 people.

BP Bridge

Connecting Millennium Park to Daley Bicentennial Plaza, this 925-foot-long winding bridge (Frank Gehry’s first) provides incomparable views of the Chicago skyline, Grant Park and Lake Michigan. Clad in brushed stainless steel panels, the BP Bridge complements the Jay Pritzker Pavilion in function as well as design by creating an acoustic barrier from the traffic noise below.

The Lurie Garden

Designed by Kathryn Gustafson, Jennifer Guthrie, Shannon Nichol, Piet Oudolf and Robert Israel, this 2.5-acre garden pays homage to the City’s motto, “Urbs in Horto” (City in a Garden), which refers to Chicago’s transformation from flat and marshy origins to a bold and powerful city. Highlights of the Garden include the 15-foot-high “Shoulder Hedge.” This physical representation of Sandburg’s famous description of the “City of Big Shoulders” encloses the garden on two sides and protects more than 138 varieties of perennial plants. A graceful hardwood footbridge over shallow water divides the garden diagonally between “light” and “dark” plates.

Chase Promenade

A three-block-long walkway lined by nearly 200 trees, the Promenade spans the center of Millennium Park from Monroe to Randolph Streets. Chicagoans and visitors are invited to enjoy exhibitions, festivals and other family events on this eight acres of parkland.

Boeing Galleries

The Boeing Galleries, designed by HarleyEllis, add formal space for public exhibitions to the park’s mid-level terraces. The Galleries are lined on either side by a row of graceful sycamore trees—a rarity in Chicago. Additional seating is provided by a series of black granite steps along each gallery’s east side, while a precast staircase connects the South Gallery with the beloved Crown Fountain.

The Crown Fountain

Designed by Spanish artist Jaume Plensa and inspired by the people of Chicago, the Crown Fountain consists of two 30-foot glass block towers at each end of a shallow reflecting pool. The towers project video images from a broadcast spectrum of Chicago citizens, a reference to the traditional use of gargoyles in fountains. The Fountain, which anchors the southwest corner of Millennium Park at Michigan Avenue and Monroe Street, is a favorite of both children and families. The water is on from mid-spring through mid-fall each year (weather permitting), while the images remain on year-round.

McCormick Tribune Plaza and Ice Rink

Located on Michigan Avenue between Madison and Washington streets, the Plaza offers visitors one of the best views of Chicago’s famed Michigan Avenue streetwall. The 16,000-square-foot Ice Skating Rink operates from mid-November to mid-March (weather permitting). Skate rental, a warming lobby and public lockers are available. In the summer, parkgoers can enjoy alfresco dining.

AT&T Plaza/Cloud Gate

The Plaza anchors the site of celebrated British artist Anish Kapoor’s first public outdoor work installed in the United States. The 110-ton elliptical Cloud Gate sculpture is forged of a seamless series of highly polished stainless steel “plates,” which reflect the city’s famous skyline and the clouds above. A 12-foot-high arch provides a “gate” to the concave chamber beneath the sculpture, inviting visitors to touch its mirror-like surface and see their image reflected back from a variety of perspectives.

Wrigley Square and Millennium Monument (peristyle)

The Millennium Monument, designed by OWP/P, is a nearly full-size replica of the peristyle which was originally in the same location between 1917 and 1953. Its columns are made of Indiana limestone while the base is built from French limestone. In appreciation of the park’s founders, their names are etched into the base. Wrigley Square’s tree-lined area is an inviting space for visitors to relax, stroll and view the monument.

To learn more about Millennium Park, please visit the Millennium Park Welcome Center: The Welcome Center is located at 201 E. Randolph Street in the Northwest Exelon Pavilion and is open daily.

The Millennium Park Greeters offer free informal walking tours of Millennium Park from the Welcome Center, seasonally and as weather permits.

Visitors are also invited to take the audio tour and listen to the voices of the people who built the park describe the idea, its evolution and its art. The Audio Tour is available as a free MP3 download from www.millenniumpark.org.

For additional information about the park please visit www.millenniumpark.org or call 312.742.1168.

For Chicago visitor information call toll free 1.877.CHICAGO or visit www.877chicago.com.
Notes for Teachers

Park History
From the 1850’s through the late 20th century, the site that is now occupied by Millennium Park was controlled by the Illinois Central Railroad. In Daniel Burnham’s 1909 Plan of Chicago he considered the railroad property to be so untouchable that he developed the Grant Park portion of the plan around it.

Construction began on Grant park in 1917. The first areas to be constructed were the narrow strips between Michigan Avenue and the railroad tracks extending from Randolph Street to 11th Street. The original Peristyle was built at this time at the corner of Michigan Avenue and Randolph Street.

With the completion of Grant park, the railroad area remained a blight in its corner. In 1977 four Chicago civic groups proposed the “Lakefront Gardens for the Performing Arts.” The proposed park, which included a performing arts pavilion, lacked both a funding strategy and significant government support. Ultimately, the Petrillo Music Shell was built in Grant Park as a compromise between the civic groups and the Chicago Park District.

In 1997 Mayor Richard M. Daley directed his staff to develop plans for a new music venue to be built over the active tracks and surface parking lot. What is now Millennium Park was first conceived in 1998 with the mission of creating new parkland in Grant Park to transform the unsightly railroad tracks and parking lots that had long dotted the lakefront.

Today, with its unprecedented combination of architecture, monumental sculpture and landscape design, the 24.5 acre Millennium Park has become the crowning achievement for Chicago in the tradition of its original founders.

Learn more about the transformation from an industrial wasteland to a new urban park of world renown with Chicago Public Library’s digital collection: Building an Icon: Construction Photographs of Millennium Park New Collection and Exhibit.
This Guide
This guide is intended as a fun and flexible tool that you and your students can use to explore the features of Millennium Park. Its main purpose is to encourage students to observe the park around them—its sights, sounds, activities—and begin to make connections between the built environment and the human experience. The intended audience is elementary students, but most activities can be adapted for older or younger children.

Millennium Park is the most recent example of Chicago’s great tradition of building parks that combine public art with nature. Children are often surprised to learn that city parks are not given to us by nature but are instead the result of intense design and massive landscaping efforts. We hope your students will begin to understand how parks help cities, that it takes the efforts of many people to build them, and that everyone has a role to play in caring for them.

There are nine features of Millennium Park included in this guide. For each feature, there is a very short paragraph of background information and a set of questions and prompts that encourage critical thinking and observation. These questions can be discussed between pairs or among small groups of students, or as whole-class exercises.

It is not necessary (or advisable) to visit each of the nine features as part of your field trip, nor is there any particular order for visiting the features that will work best. Rather, it is more important for students to have enough time in each place to make their observations and record their thoughts and ideas. You know your students best, but it’s probably a good idea to limit your trip to a maximum of four features. Even so, you can also make good use of your walks between locations, as your students will see and hear a lot as they make the transition from one place to the next.

At the end of the Features descriptions, there are several blank pages (pages 34–45) labeled “shapes,” “sketches,” “observations,” “ideas,” “questions,” and “maps.” These are places where students can record their ideas and responses to specific features they visit, or to the park as a whole. When printing the guide for your students, you may include as many blank pages as you think your students will need.

Shapes: As your students seek shapes in the park, it will be useful at the outset to get them to look for both giant and tiny examples. For instance, if students are looking at the Aon Building on Randolph Street, you can point out that the entire building is the shape of a rectangle, but that each window is also a rectangle, and that many of the sections of the sidewalks are rectangles too. Once students get the idea, they will begin to see shapes everywhere throughout the park. It also could be fun to divide your class into groups assign a specific shape to each group.

Maps: Students will enjoy making visual maps of what they see in the park, but one way to have students use multiple senses to explore the park is to have them make sound maps. Have students draw an “x” with a circle around it at the center of their map page. Then if possible, have the class spread out so they are not within talking distance of each other. Tell the students that for ten minutes, they will sit quietly listening for sounds. Students should mark on their maps where they think the sounds are coming from and what they think they are. Explain that students can try to spell the sounds they hear (bzzzzz) or (rrrrrr), or they can write the name or draw a picture of the thing that they think is making the sounds. After ten minutes are up, you can ask students to share their favorite or not-so-favorite sound. Encourage students to imitate the sounds even if they don’t know the source. The other students will have fun guessing what the sounds are.

There are, of course, many ways you can prepare your students for the trip and extend their learning afterwards. For a set of resources that will help, please visit http://burnhamplan100.uchicago.edu/learning/overview.
Notes for Big Dreamers

A hundred years ago Daniel Burnham and Edward Bennett issued the *Plan of Chicago* to give people great ideas about how to make their city and the region as a whole a better place. Today, people are still dreaming big dreams for Chicago and working hard to turn their bold plans into real places. One of these places is Millennium Park. Just a few years ago, there was nothing here but scrappy parking lots and unused railroad tracks. Many people didn’t think this was good enough for Chicago’s “front yard.”

When you visit the park today, think about how the artwork and landscape was made and why it’s important that everyone can share it. How does having a special downtown park filled with free art and performances help our city? What is fun about it? If you were going to change a vacant lot into a park, what would you want to see there?

*This is what the place that is now Millennium Park looked like in the 1970’s. The Pritzker Pavilion and the Great Lawn now exist where you see the cars parked. What do you think?*

Daniel Burnham

You might not have heard of Daniel Burnham and the plan he wrote, but both were very important to the way Chicago looks and works today. Daniel Burnham lived and worked in Chicago in the late 1800’s and the early 1900’s. He was an architect, and one of the first people to work as a “city planner.” A city planner thinks about how all of the systems of a city work together: its buildings, transportation, parks and open space.

In 1909, Burnham and his partner Edward Bennett published the *Plan of Chicago*, a collection of ideas and illustrations about how to make Chicago a better place. Their ideas included widening streets, building what is now Navy Pier, linking railroads, and keeping the shore of Lake Michigan open to the public. This last part, about the open lakefront is what led to the creation of Grant Park, a place often called “Chicago’s Front Yard.”

Most other cities have factories and other buildings on their waterfronts. We are lucky that Burnham, city leaders and many other ordinary citizens fought to keep our lakefront open. Today, we have beautiful parks and beaches that stretch for almost thirty miles along the shore of Lake Michigan, and that’s a big part of what makes Chicago so special.
Richard M. Daley
You probably have heard of Richard M. Daley, the Mayor of the City of Chicago. Mayors have a lot of things to do to make sure their cities work. They have to work to make sure that everyone has clean and safe places to live and work, that children have good places to learn and play, and that our transportation system works.

On top of providing basic services, good mayors know that their city needs something special that will make residents feel proud of where they live and will make tourists want to visit. In 1997, Mayor Daley had the idea to build Millennium Park in a section of Grant Park that was covered with an old, unsightly railyard. He thought that building a world-class park in downtown Chicago would be a good gift to the city to celebrate the Year 2000, called the millennium.

It’s hard to know when you have an idea for something whether or not it will turn out. Daniel Burnham and Mayor Daley each had to work hard in different ways to convince citizens and business people that their ideas were good and would make Chicago a better place to live. They also needed the support of lots of other people who helped make their ideas stronger and better. In the end, Daniel Burnham did not live long enough to see many of his plans come to life. Fortunately, Mayor Daley is able to enjoy Millennium Park, but even he is surprised by the many things both large and small that make the park such a success.

You
Sometimes it’s ok to daydream. That’s when a lot of people get their best ideas. For example, Mayor Daley was at the dentist, looking out the window at Grant Park when he got the idea for Millennium Park.

It’s not enough to daydream, though. You have to feed your daydreams with observations. As you go through the park today, use all of your senses to make observations.

• What do you see? Look closer.
• What do you see now? Turn around. Now what?
• What do you hear? What is making those sounds? Are they natural or manmade?
• What do you smell? Where is it coming from? Is it good or bad?
• How do you feel? What makes you feel this way?

You also have to feed your daydreams with information, so it’s good to develop the curiosity habit. Ask questions about the things you see around you, and develop theories that answer your questions.

You don’t have to stop observing and gathering information when your field trip is over, though. Look out the bus window and think of questions. When you walk back into your school, you can pretend you’re on a field trip to visit it for the very first time. What do you see when you look at your school? Look closer. What do you see now?

Keep asking questions. Keep making observations. Keep coming up with ideas. You’re well on your way to becoming a lifetime Bold Planner and Big Dreamer.
Millennium Park Train Station

Go to the Millennium Parking Garage entrance in the Exelon Pavilion located on Randolph Street west of the McDonald’s Cycle Center. Take the elevator to level 2.5. Follow the signs for Millennium Station. Exit the double doors, turn left, and enter Millennium Station. Take a seat on the benches.

Something to think about

Most people who visit Millennium Park do not know that it is actually a green, grassy roof built over a giant parking garage and train station. Mayor Daley and city planners wanted a beautiful park. But more than that, they wanted to find a way to solve some of Chicago’s transportation problems. How do you think Millennium Park helped with that?

Stop. Look. Listen.

Respond on the pages provided.
• What sounds do you hear in the train station? Make a sound map.
• What shapes do you see in the train station? Sketch a few.
• How does the train station make you feel? What part of the place—the furniture, the light, the building—makes you feel as you do?

Questions to think and talk about:
• Why do you think it’s a good idea to have trains underground?
• Where do you think the people you see getting on and off of the trains are going to or coming from?
• If you could take a train somewhere, where would you go and why?

• If you wanted to go to Michigan City, which train would you take? When does the next one leave?

Just for fun

Imagine that you have just gotten off of a train after travelling to Chicago from another city. Write a short postcard to let your family know about the trip and that you got to Chicago ok.
Jay Pritzker Pavilion

Walk to the seating area of the Jay Pritzker Pavilion. If you’re traveling there from the Rooftop Terrace, make sure to pause to look at the backside of the “ribbons” that surround the Pritzker stage.

Something to think about
Frank Gehry is the architect who designed the Pritzker Stage and Pavilion. He called the big, curling stainless steel structures that surround the stage “a bouquet of flowers in the park.” Other people have called it a lion’s mane. The steel curls are not just for decoration, though. They hide the lighting systems, protect some of the seats from rain, shade the stage and musicians from the sun, and help the audience hear the concerts better. To really get the idea of how the pavilion works, you’ll have to visit in the summer when there are lots of free concerts with all kinds of music.

Stop. Look. Listen.
Respond on the pages provided.
• What sounds do you hear in the pavilion? Make a sound map.
• What shapes do you see as you look around you? Sketch a few.
• How does the pavilion make you feel? What part of the place—the sky, the light, the shape of the stage—makes you feel as you do?

Questions to think and talk about
• What do you think the curls of steel look like? What do they remind you of?
• Some people call architecture “frozen music.” What do you think they mean?
• Did you look behind the curling ribbons? How are they supported? What shapes hold them up?
• Have you ever seen a show on this stage? What do you think it would be like to perform here?

Just for fun
Imagine that you are an architect who has been asked to design a stage and pavilion. Make a sketch of what it would look like.
Great Lawn

Walk to the middle of the Great Lawn. Think for a minute that you are actually walking on the roof of a parking garage. Then lie on your back and look at the sky for a while. Then sit facing the buildings on Michigan Avenue.

Something to think about

The buildings you see when you face west are part of the Historic Michigan Boulevard District—also known as the “Michigan Avenue Cliff.” Michigan Boulevard is one of the world’s most recognized streets. Many of the buildings you see were designed by famous architects—Daniel Burnham, Louis Sullivan, Holabird and Roche. Some people joke that it looks like all of the prettiest buildings in Chicago got together on Michigan Avenue to pose for a group photo.

Stop. Look. Listen.

Respond on the pages provided.

• What sounds do you hear on the lawn? Make a sound map.
• What shapes do you see in the buildings? Do you see triangles? Squares? Rectangles? A façade is the front or “face” of a building. Choose one façade to sketch. What shapes do you see overhead?
• How does sitting on the lawn make you feel? What part of the place—the trellis overhead, the grass, the buildings around you—makes you feel as you do?

Questions to think and talk about

• Which buildings are older and which are newer? How can you tell the difference?
• Do you think it’s important to keep some of the old buildings? Why or why not?

• What do you think people are doing in those buildings? What do you think they see when they look out of their windows?
• Why do you think there is a trellis overhead?
• Besides other school children on field trips, who do you see on the lawn? What are they doing?
• Would Millennium Park and this lawn feel different without the Michigan Avenue buildings?

Just for fun

What ideas come to your mind when you lie on your back and look at the sky?
BP Bridge

Walk over the bridge from Millennium Park into Daley Bicentennial Park.

Something to think about
Frank Gehry is the architect who designed this bridge. It is the first bridge he ever built. Lots of architects get their ideas from the things they see in the world around them. Frank Gehry got a lot of his ideas from fish and snakes.

Stop. Look. Listen.
Respond on the pages provided.
- What sounds do you hear as you cross the bridge and/or sit in Daley Bicentennial Park? Make a sound map.
- What shapes do you see in the bridge? From the bridge? What shapes do you see in the buildings around you?
- How does crossing the bridge you feel? What part of the bridge—its shape, what it’s made of, what it crosses—makes you feel as you do?

Questions to think and talk about
- What parts of this bridge remind you of a snake or fish?
- Why do you think Frank Gehry decided to make a curved bridge instead of a straight one?
- Why do you think the planners of Millennium Park thought they needed a bridge at all? (If you already walked over the Nichols Bridgeway, how is this one the same or different?)
- How is Daley Bicentennial Park on one side of the bridge different from Millennium Park on the other?
- How do you think the experience of crossing under the bridge would be different from crossing over the bridge?

• Can you see how the bridge is supported?
• Where is the lake?

Just for fun
What other animals do you think would be a good inspiration for buildings or a bridge? Draw a bridge that is inspired by an animal.
Lurie Garden

Enter the garden and walk down the path next to the water. This path is called “the seam” and represents the rail yards. The seam connects two “plates,” one dark and one light. The dark plate represents Chicago’s murky past, and the light plate represents its future.

Something to think about
Kathryn Gustafson is the landscape architect who designed the Lurie Garden. She used a famous poem about Chicago as her inspiration. The poem is called, “City of Big Shoulders” and was written by Carl Sandburg. Here is the first stanza:

HOG Butcher for the World,
Tool Maker, Stacker of Wheat,
Player with Railroads and the Nation’s Freight Handler
Stormy, husky, brawling,
City of Big Shoulders:

Respond on the pages provided.

• What sounds do you hear as you walk through the garden?
  Make a sound map.
• What shapes do you see in the garden? In the plants? In the walkways?
• What do you smell?
• How does walking through the garden make you feel?
  What part of the garden—the plants, its smells, its shape—makes you feel as you do?

Questions to think and talk about
• Why do you think that a lot of people say that planting gardens is like “painting with plants”?
• Why do you think it’s important to have gardens in the middle of a big city?

Just for fun
Write a haiku about Lurie Garden. A haiku is a Japanese form of poetry that consists of three lines. The first has five syllables, the second has seven, and third has five. Here’s an example:

Water cools my feet
While flowers tickle my eyes.
The sun says, “oh, yes.”
Nichols Bridgeway

Walk across the Nichols Bridgeway to the terrace of the Art Institute's Modern Wing.

Something to think about
Renzo Piano is the architect who designed this bridge. He was inspired by the shape of a ship’s hull. The bridge is 625 feet long and rises to a height of 30 feet above Monroe Street and 60 feet above the railroad tracks. Piano has said, “architecture must fly: it is made of emotions, tensions, transparency.”

Stop. Look. Listen.
Respond on the pages provided.

• What sounds do you hear as you cross the bridge? Make a sound map.
• What shapes do you see in the bridge? From the bridge? What shapes do you see in the buildings around you? Did you see how the bridge is supported? What is the shape of the supports?
• How does crossing the bridge you feel? What part of the bridge—its shape, what it’s made of, what it crosses—makes you feel as you do?

Questions to think and talk about

• Why do you think the bridge is here? (If you already walked over the BP bridge, how is this one the same or different?)
• Some people think that the train tracks you see from the bridge should be covered up. What do you think?

Just for fun
Notice the textures on the bridge and on the terrace. Use your paper and a pencil to make rubbings.
Crown Fountain
Sit on one of the benches that surround the Crown Fountain.

Something to think about
Juame Plensa is the artist from Spain who designed the Crown Fountain. Plensa wanted to connect his modern fountain with some ideas from older fountains, like gargoyles. (Gargoyles are creatures carved in stone that spit water from their mouth. They look like this.)

That’s why he designed spouts of water to come out of peoples’ mouths. In the summer you can see what this looks like. In the fall, there are nature pictures on the towers. On the day the park opened, Plensa was surprised by how children instantly began to play and splash in the water.

Stop. Look. Listen.
Respond on the pages provided.
• What sounds do you hear as you sit near the fountain? Make a sound map.
• What shapes do you see in the fountain? In the setting around you?
• How does sitting near the fountain make you feel? What part of the fountain—the water, the light, the images, the other people nearby—makes you feel as you do?

Questions to think and talk about
• Why do you think people like to play in water?
• What do you think of this fountain as a work of art?
• What is the role of water in the fountain?
• What do you think the towers are made of?
• How do you think it works?

Just for fun
Make a sketch of a fountain you might create.
Cloud Gate

Walk up the platform to the Cloud Gate sculpture. Most people call this “The Bean.”

Something to think about
Anish Kapoor is the artist who designed Cloud Gate. He was born in India but moved to England when he was 16. It weighs 110 tons, which is so heavy that engineers had to redesign the parking lot that is below the sculpture. (An elephant weighs six tons. If you like to do math, you can figure out how many elephants would be equal to Cloud Gate’s weight.) Kapoor wanted his sculpture not only to reflect the City, but to put the people looking at Cloud Gate in the sculpture too. Kapoor has said, “Not only do you look at it, it looks at you.”

Stop. Look. Listen.
Respond on the pages provided.
• What sounds do you hear at the sculpture? Make a sound map.
• What shapes do you see in the setting around Cloud Gate? How do they change when they are reflected in the sculpture? How does the Michigan Avenue skyline look?
• How does looking at Cloud Gate make you feel when you’re standing on the outside? How does that change when you walk underneath it? What elements of the sculpture make you feel this way?
• What are the other people in the park doing near the sculpture?

Questions to think and talk about
• Why do you think the people who built Millennium Park decided that they needed a big sculpture here? Why do you think they chose this design?
• Why do you think Plensa named this sculpture “Cloud Gate?”
• How does it feel to have a sculpture look at you?
• Why do you think so many people want to take pictures of themselves here? Do you?

Just for fun
Imagine that you are Anish Kapoor, the artist who designed Cloud Gate, and that you’ve come to visit your creation to see how things are going. Write a brief diary or journal entry.
Millennium Monument (Peristyle) in Wrigley Square

Walk around the lawn in front of the peristyle, or sit on one of the benches.

Something to think about
A peristyle is a series of columns that surrounds a garden. It’s a form of classical architecture from ancient Rome. This peristyle is a copy of a larger one that existed in the same place in Grant Park from 1917–1953. The names of the people and corporations who donated money to build Millennium Park are carved in the wall.

Stop. Look. Listen.
Respond on the pages provided.
- What sounds do you hear as you sit in the square? Make a sound map.
- What shapes do you see in Wrigley Square and in the setting around it? How are they different from other shapes you’ve seen in the park?
- How does sitting in Wrigley Square make you feel? What features of the setting make you feel as you do?
- What are the other people in the park doing in Wrigley Square?

Questions to think and talk about:
- Why do you think the people who built Millennium Park decided to recreate the peristyle that was in the park a long time ago?
- Why do you think the park designers now or in the past copied a style of ancient architecture from Rome? Why did they want an “old” feature in a modern park?

- Notice that this peristyle is located at one of Millennium Park’s corners. Do you think this is a good location for a peristyle? Why or why not?
- Why do you think the people who helped pay for the park want to be remembered by having their names carved here?
- What would you like to be remembered for?

Just for fun
Look at the reflecting pool and make a wish. Write it down.
Name of place in Millennium Park:

______________________________

My sound map or sketch:

How this place makes me feel:

______________________________

______________________________

______________________________

Questions and Ideas:

______________________________

______________________________

______________________________

Name of place in Millennium Park:

______________________________

My sound map or sketch:

How this place makes me feel:

______________________________

______________________________

______________________________

Questions and Ideas:

______________________________

______________________________

______________________________
Shapes
See how many of the shapes below you can see around you in the park. (Hint: Look for both tiny and giant examples.) Sketch them here and write where you see them.
Questions
Bold Planners and Big Dreamers are always wondering about things and always asking questions, even if they can’t find the answer right away. What questions occur to you as you walk through the park?
Ideas
It’s important for Bold Planners and Big Dreamers to keep track of their ideas in writing, because they’re easy to forget. Or sometimes they don’t make sense at first but later you think of ways to change your original idea to make it better. Write down your ideas, even if they seem silly.
Observations
What do you notice that surprises you? It could be a sound or a sight or the kind of people you see. You’ll need to practice noticing things but once you start, you probably won’t be able to stop!
Sketches
Bold Planners and Big Dreamers sometimes make doodles or sketches instead of words to help them remember what they see or to record their ideas. Let’s see some of yours.
Maps
Maps are fun to make. They show where things are compared to other things. Try making a few. You can even make a map of the sounds you hear. Ask your teacher how.
Presenting Sponsor for Education:

POLK BROS FOUNDATION

Additional Support for Education:

McCormick Foundation
Steans Family Foundation

Education Partner:

Polk Bros. Foundation Center for Urban Education at DePaul University

Leadership funding for the Burnham Plan Centennial was provided by The Chicago Community Trust, our region’s community foundation. The Trust is joined as a founding sponsor by The Elizabeth Morse and Elizabeth Morse Genius Charitable Trusts.