

A Review of our Trip to Tyler Arboretum  
By Jack Wooldridge

As it was mom's birthday today, we decided to take a trip to Tyler Arboretum, where they had a wonderful Totally Terrific Tree Houses Exhibit. When we arrived at Tyler Arboretum (after a two-hour trip), we had lunch and took a trip to the visitors' center. After we had peered around there for a bit (and mom had picked up a large number of leaflets), we began to explore the tree houses. A little while later, some friends joined us.

The tree houses were amazing! There were many different types, all of them incredible. Some of them were not actually tree houses, more tree sculptures as you couldn't go inside or interact with them. But others, like a platform hooked to a tree and suspended with wires, were built for being climbed on. One tree house, a tunnel built to remind you of the inside of a tree, had a fireman's pole for you to slide down and monkey bars to climb on. There was also a Hobbit House, a little miniature house made of clay, with miniature furniture inside. There were hammocks for you relax in, and a castle for you to climb around in (it also had a slide which I tried to go down and ended up being too big for). My favorite had to be Scared Silly, and huge tree house built to look like a big pink elephant with a mouse below it.

After we had been through all the tree houses, we took a walk through the maze, which was big and had the points of compass at the edges. When we got back from there, we went for a walk in the woods (which wasn't that long and mostly incorporated trails we had been along when seeing the tree houses). As we walked in the woods, I noticed many native plants. In fact, as mom explained, these plants were all natives, specially planted along the woodland path. It was a very fun place, and I enjoyed my time there.