Hello VillageWalk Gardeners

Below is a fun Pop Quiz

No worries, the answers are below each question.

And we won't even grade you – promise!

1. What is the term for a plant that continues to grow season after season for at least three years?

Perennials last several years...usually 3 or more. Here in SW FL winters are mild and some annuals can last more than one season when planted in an ideal spot.

2. Which of these insects is <u>not</u> considered beneficial to a garden?

Bumblebee - ladybug - spider - grasshopper

Gardeners and grasshoppers are rarely on friendly terms. A grasshopper outbreak (when swarms of insects hatch and begin feeding at the same time) can devastate a small garden in a few hours. Huge appetites combined with the ability to easily jump or fly from plant to plant make grasshoppers one of the most destructive garden pests.

3. Soil can be alkaline, acidic, or ?

Garden plants typically grow best in <u>neutral</u> (or slightly acid soil.) Most won't thrive in highly acid or highly alkaline soil, though a few have adapted to such extremes.

4. For how long can weed seeds remain dormant in the soil?

A few days – months - one season - years

Weed seeds can survive in the soil for years before they germinate and grow.

5. What is the term for removing dead flower heads?

Deadheading - beheading - guillotining - plucking

Deadheading is the gardening term used for the removal of faded or dead flowers from plants. Most annuals and many perennials will continue to bloom throughout the growing season if they are regularly deadheaded.

6. How are Butterflies able to smell?

With their feet - with their wings - with their antennae - they can't smell

Butterflies "smell" (they don't have a nose!) with their antennae.

7. Florida's state butterfly is the:

Monarch – Sulphur - Zebra Long Wing - Giant Swallowtail

Florida's state butterfly is the Zebra Long Wing

8. When is the best time to water your plants?

Daily - weekly - between 6PM & 9PM - early morning

Water plants in the <u>early morning</u> because they need water to help with photosynthesis, which occurs during the day. Also, watering early morning conserves moisture loss. If you water later in the day, the leaves will be damp during the cooler nighttime, which could promote fungal diseases.

9. Touching a butterfly's wings will keep it from flying - T or F

<u>False</u> - Butterflies lose scales just by doing the things butterflies do: nectaring, mating, and flying. If you touch a butterfly gently, it will lose some scales, but rarely enough to prevent it from flying. A butterfly wing is made of a thin membrane webbed with veins. Colorful scales cover the membrane, overlapping like roof shingles.

10. Is the beautiful royal palm planted throughout VillageWalk native to Florida?

Roystonea regia – commonly known as the Cuban royal palm or the Florida royal palm, is native to Mexico, parts of Central America, Caribbean, and southern Florida.