

A Van Eyck plant poster

Information

The central panel depicting the Adoration of the Mystic Lamb is filled with evergreen plants, spring flowers and medicinal herbs that symbolise immortality, constant rejuvenation and the healing power of faith respectively.

The painting's heavenly garden features numerous native plant species. Margareta van Eyck helped her brother Hubert represent them accurately on the panel.

Jan Van Eyck was not only familiar with native plants. It is likely that he became acquainted with numerous Mediterranean species on his journey to Spain and Portugal (1428-1429) on behalf of Philip the Good. This explains why he was able to accurately depict the bitter orange, citron, Mediterranean cypress, stone pine, etc. These species also appear in the painting's heavenly garden.

Choose a plant from the heavenly garden.

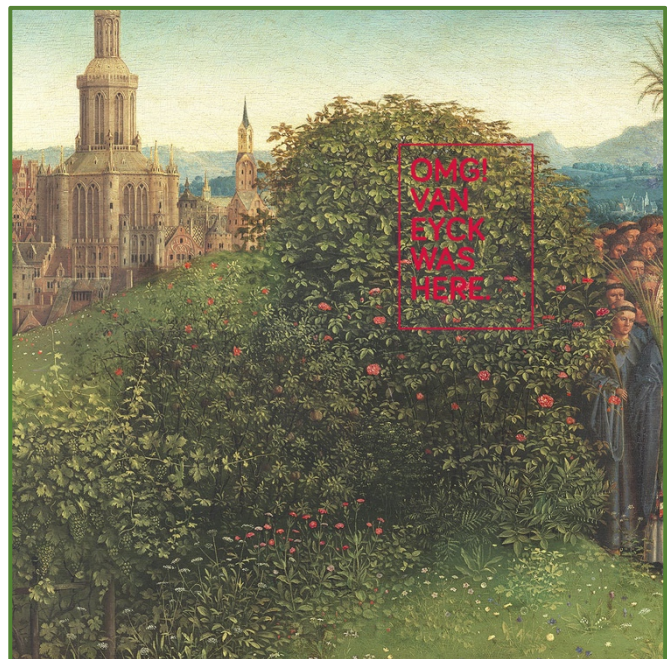
Try to find out as much as you can about it.

Create a poster about your plant with pictures and information.

Try to include information no-one else knows.

Tips

- First write down what you already know.
- Come up with some questions you would like an answer to.
- Look up the answers.
- Collect illustrations.
- Create the poster.



Some plants from the heavenly garden:

- European silver fir
- Yarrow
- Lady's mantle
- Kidney vetch
- Common columbine
- Hart's tongue fern
- Common daisy
- Common box
- Common marigold
- Dwarf fan palm
- Greater celandine
- Citron
- Bitter orange
- Lumia
- Lily of the valley
- Common hazel
- Mediterranean cypress
- Wallflower
- Lesser celandine
- Common fig
- Wild strawberry
- Sweet woodruff
- Great yellow gentian
- Noble liverwort
- Bearded iris
- Bay laurel
- Creeping Jenny
- Common mallow
- Lucerne
- Black mulberry
- Common myrtle
- Wild daffodil
- Olive
- Apothecary's rose
- White willow
- Meadow buttercup
- Pomegranate
- Almond
- Wild cherry
- Ribwort plantain

