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& fairy tale



Learning about the Garden



with
Sleeping Beauty



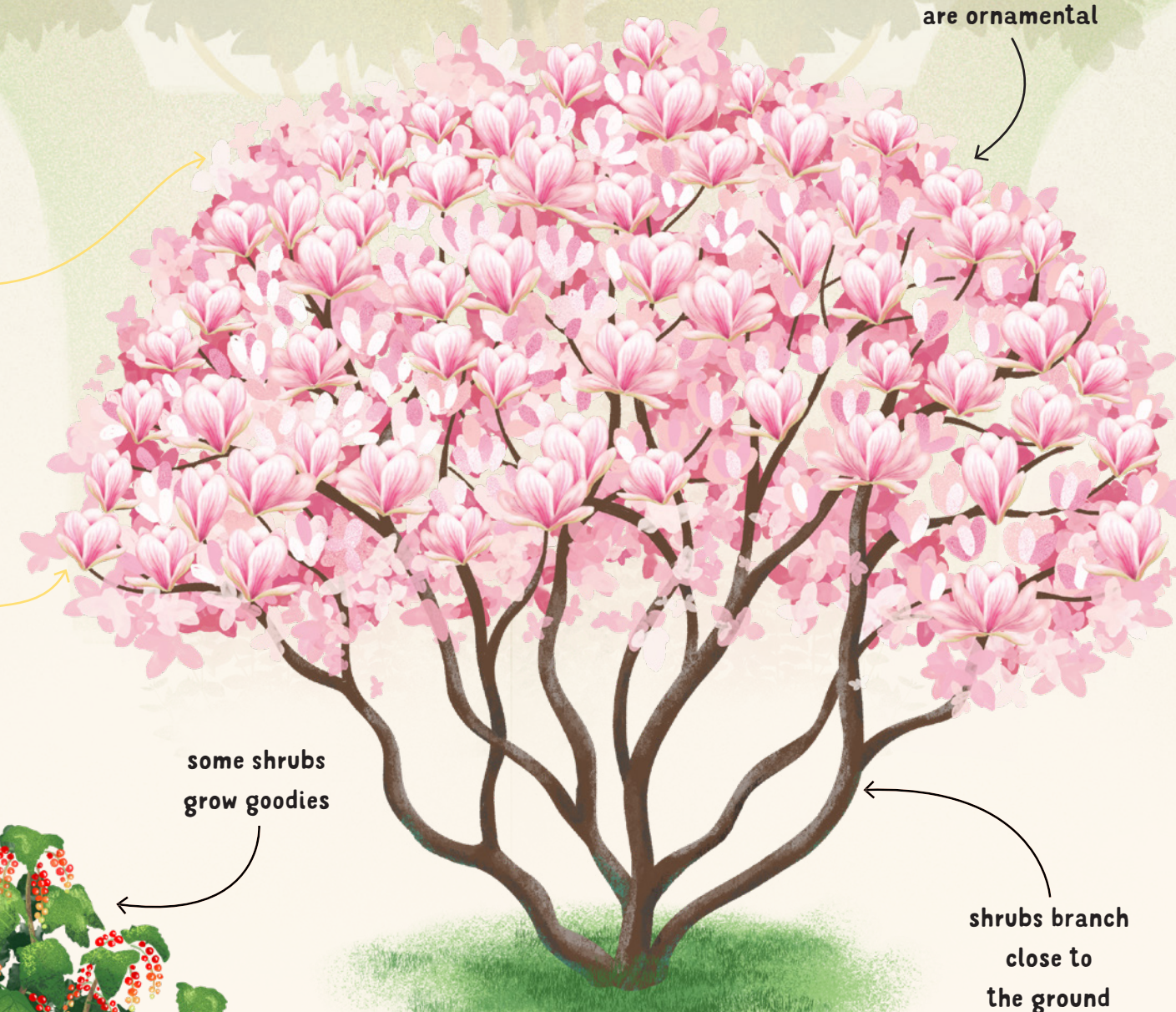
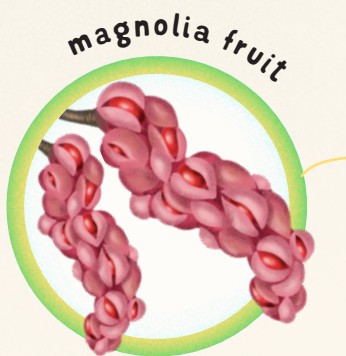
Learning about the Garden with Sleeping Beauty

SHRUBS

Did you see the Princess enjoy the beautiful shrubbery in the royal garden? No wonder; after all, shrubs are an indispensable part of any garden. Some enchant us with their interesting flowers or colorful leaves while others delight us with their goodies, which we can munch on.

Magnolia

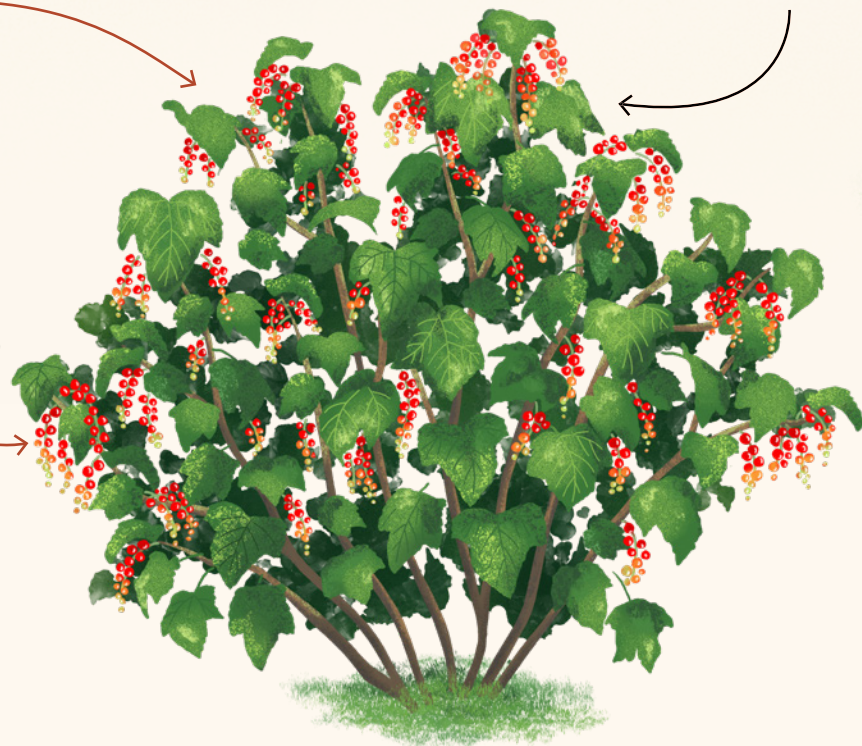
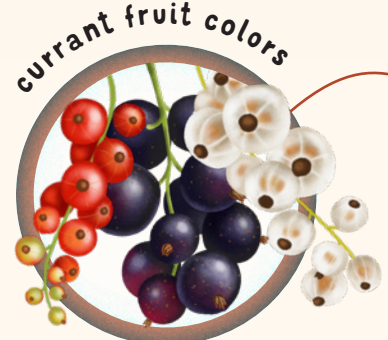
One of the most beautiful ornamental shrubberies that can be found in our gardens and parks are called magnolias. They charm people with their **white-pink blossoms**. They usually bloom before their first leaves sprout. You can't really savor their fruits, though they do look interesting—sort of like peculiar cones.



some shrubs are ornamental

some shrubs grow goodies

shrubs branch close to the ground



Currants

A low-maintenance shrubbery can fit in any garden. Its **fruits—juicy berries with a few seeds**—are very popular. There are several varieties of different tastes and colors to choose from. **Red currants** are the sourest, while the white ones tend to be much sweeter. Finally, **black currants** have a somewhat peculiar, very aromatic, spicy taste, which may not be very appealing to those on the fussy side.

Fruit-bearing shrubs



Jostaberry

A crossbreed between gooseberries and black currants, it has the currant's thorn-free branches and dark fruit, as well as the large berries of the gooseberry bush. When ripe, its fruits are about 0.4 to 1.2 inches large and purple in color—the **riper, the sweeter**.



Chokeberry

Both useful and ornamental, chokeberries are adorned with tiny white blooms in the spring while delighting the eye with orange-red leaves and dark fruit in the fall. The berries are not only pretty, but also beneficial—**full of healthy substances**.

What are shrubs?

Just like trees, shrubs are woody plants. And just like trees, they, too, have an important part to play when it comes to **producing oxygen**. They can also function as a dust catcher if your house is located close to the road. So what's the difference between trees and shrubs? Unlike trees, which typically have a single trunk, shrubs have several of them, branching close to the ground. Usually, **they're also shorter** than trees.

What about the shrubs?

In some cases, the line between a tree and a shrub isn't always clear. **Some species even have both forms**, depending on the environment in which the plant grows, as well as on the skills of the gardener who can tidy it up in different ways.

shrubs can be tidied up by trimming



Ornamental shrubs



Weigela

Its tubular flowers immediately catch the eye. They're usually **pink**, but some varieties grow **red, magenta**, or **white** blooms. Even the leaves are multi-colored—not only green, but also red to mention a few.

Rhododendron

Its deeply green, leathery leaves and distinct flowers make for a beautiful arrangement in any garden. The **shrubby blooms** in many different shades—white, yellow, pink, red, orange, or purple.



Box tree

Few other bushes are used for hedging as frequently as the box tree. That's because it's very easy to shape. It has green, shiny leathery leaves and inconspicuous, tiny flowers. Watch out, though! All parts of this **shrubby are poisonous**.




Viburnum

When this popular shrubbery blooms, it's as if it's been showered with **snowballs** that weigh the branches down. The blooms start out light green, slowly turning white until they're mildly pink.

Ornamental and fruit-bearing

Ornamental shrubs prettify each and every garden not only with their exquisite blossoms, but also with their interesting leaves. Branchy shrubbery can fill up and cover ugly corners while the short ones can be used as a hedge around the road. Meanwhile, **fruit-bearing shrubs provide us with lovely fruits**. You don't need a ladder to harvest them; munch on them freely while standing on the ground!



Whenever the Princess grew tired of trees, she'd build secret hidey-holes in the shrubbery, roving among the twigs and feeling as if she were in a fairy tale. When her parents called her to come to lunch or dinner, now, that was the funniest part of all. "Princeeess, Princeeess!" they'd shout and run around the garden like mad, getting maids and servants to lend a helping hand, but the little rascal was nowhere to be found. She was crouching in the arms of dense shrubbery, almost close enough to touch. All they needed to do was take a good look at the shrub and they'd see her pink skirt and the blinding gleam of her unruly ginger hair.

Edible plants with prickles



Gooseberry

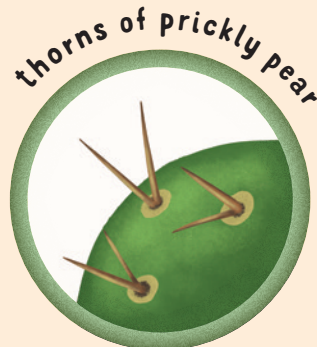
Would you like a gooseberry? You must fight your way through the bush's prickles, first. The pilose or bare berries, also known as **goosegogs**, will reward you with their sweet-and-sour flesh.



Raspberry

Who'd think that the more than 6-foot tall raspberry bush would first prick you before giving up its delicious fruits? But it will. Red raspberries **taste well both raw**, and in the form of juice, marmalade, or jelly.

Edible plants with thorns



Prickly pear

If the Princess lived in America, she still wouldn't have escaped her destiny. That's because, in the desert Southwest, you can find a so-called **prickly pear**, a cactus whose body and fruits are covered with **thorns**. But once you "disarm" the fruits, you can enjoy their delicious taste and huge vitamin C content.



Spines

A sloe's thorns are called spines. **They're not actually** thorns but small twigs which've transformed. In the spring when sloes are covered with gentle white flowers, they may seem pretty innocent, just like in the fall when they lure you in with their purple fruit.

Ornamental plants with thorns

Thunberg's barberry

Not a living soul can enter. How come? Because the hedge, made from **thorny barberries**, can stop all unwelcome visitors. But by all means—feast your eyes on it! The colorful leaves, yellow blossoms, and tiny, bright red berries are, indeed, impressive.



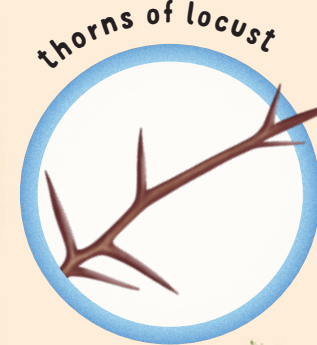
barberry
in summer



barberry
in fall

Honey locust

If the Princess pricked herself on a honey locust thorn, she'd sustained **three wounds at once** and maybe fallen asleep for three hundred years. That's because thorns of the honey locust grow in clumps. In other respects, though, it really is a beautiful tree. It has fragrant, yellow blossoms and is adorned with brown twisting pods in the fall.



THORNS AND PRICKELS

We all know that the Princess hurt her finger on a prickle and fell asleep. But Sleeping Beauty wasn't the only one who was endangered by prickly plants, large and small; armed greenery can give a hard time to us common folk, as well. Unlike the Beauty, though, we can just put a plaster on our wounds.

blooming rose



prickles of rose



Rose

The Princess most likely hurt herself on a **rose prickle**—the queen of flowers whose beauty and diverse colors shame plants from far and wide. Can you guess what its fruit is called? **Rosehip**, of course. Did you know that every single kind of rosehip is edible?

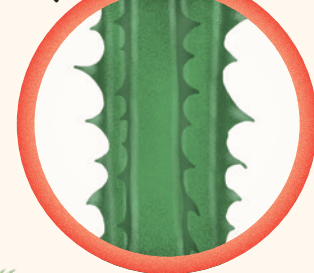
ROSE GARDEN



flower teasel



prickles of teasel



Fuller's teasel

A biennial, the fuller's teasel even looks sharp. In the first year of its life, a prickly rosette of leaves grows out of the ground; in the second year, a leafed stalk is added. Our ancestors used to make **picking tools** out of it, among other things.

rose is creeping
up on supports

Thorns or prickles?

So what did the Princess hurt herself on? A **thorn** or a **prickle**? Woody, pointed thorns are formed when a stem, leaf, or root of a plant is transformed; unlike prickles, which grow from the plant's epidermis, similar to the hair growing out of your head. Compared to thorns, **prickles can be** easily broken off.

Protection of plants

Why are thorns or prickles important? So that the otherwise helpless plants can **protect themselves**, of course! Just think about it—would you enjoy gnawing on a prickly flower? Among other things, prickly protrusions help plants **keep the water** contained in their bodies, and prevent it from excessively evaporating. Plants use thorns to creep up on supports and reach the sun.



But there are plants you'd never find in the Princess's garden, even if you traveled the length and breadth of it, not leaving a single inch out. Remember the curse of the evil witch who foretold a great misfortune, saying that the Princess would hurt her gentle finger on a prickly on the day of her seventeenth birthday? Do you know the answer now? That's right! There were no plants or flowers or any weeds that would be armed with a single tiny prickly or thorn.



Learning about the Garden with Sleeping Beauty

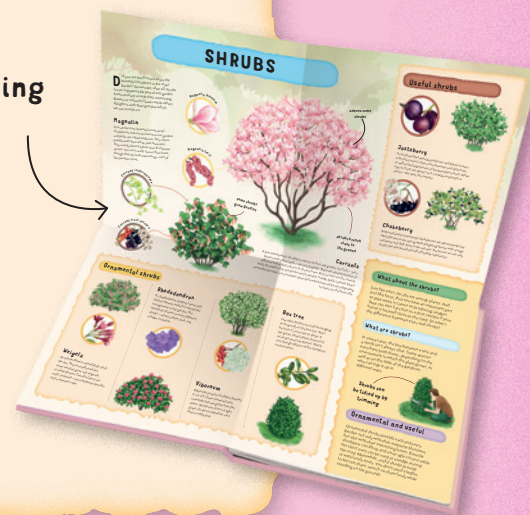
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Far, far away—nine mountains and nine rivers away—lived a charming princess called Sleeping Beauty. Her great passion was gardening and she took loving care of all of the plants surrounding her palace. Sadly, the princess was cursed when she pricked her finger on a thorn one day. She fell fast asleep, and the entire garden became shrouded in brier roses, hawthorn, and weeds. How will the charming princess save her garden? Discover the princess's story, and find out about the wonderful world of gardening with this richly illustrated book—*Learning About the Garden with Sleeping Beauty*—a unique combination of fairy tale and encyclopedia.

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under 36 months.

