

Community Gardens

During Saint Teresa of Ávila's time, some communities of monks and nuns showed care for God's creation by tending community gardens.

Kitchen Gardens

Nuns and monks usually had kitchen gardens in which they grew vegetables such as peas, beans, leeks, potatoes, onions, and garlic. Larger kitchen gardens had fruit trees or beehives to harvest honey.

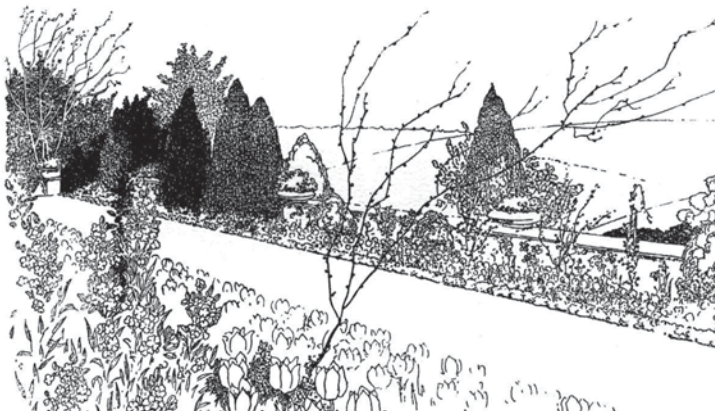
Hospital Gardens

If convents or monasteries had hospitals, nuns and monks often grew plants such as rosemary, lavender, caraway, and ginger that could be used to make medicines.

Leisure Gardens

Many monasteries and convents had leisure gardens. Hedges or walls surrounded these gardens, which contained flowers, trees, and fountains.

Monks and nuns used flowers from these gardens to decorate their churches and used the gardens as peaceful places to pray.



Design a Garden

On a separate sheet of paper, design a garden of your own. Label the plants. Then write a sentence about how you can care for God's creation by taking care of the garden you designed.