Becoming Human Cameras
(Adapted from Joseph Cornell's Sharing Nature with Children II)

Here's what you'll do:

1. Show your child how you will guide her safely, and then have her close her eyes. Tell her, "Now I'm the photographer, and you're the camera."

2. Walk slowly, holding her hand and elbow in your own hands, until you arrive at a nice viewing point. You might be looking at a big sweeping vista of the surrounding area, or you might bring her face right up close to a sunflower petal catching the sunlight.

3. Now tell your human camera to open her eyes when you tug gently on her earlobe.

4. Tug gently to have her take a picture and then close her eyes again.

5. Do this a few times, taking pictures of various garden delights. Then offer to trade positions and let your budding photographer guide you around the garden.

Also try this:

After being a human camera, your child may enjoy taking actual photos of the garden. Print up the nice shots for a garden gallery, a note card for a grandparent, or to use in a scavenger hunt, returning to try and find the exact spot in the garden.