

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

All same-age groups are welcome to register for these programs. Children's groups with a variety of ages should contact us to arrange a program specifically suited to your group.

Sarah P. Duke Gardens School Programs

Our school programs introduce students to the wonders and complexities of our natural world. Each program is age-appropriate and supports the North Carolina Standard and Extended Course of Study. The programs are led by skilled docents familiar with the Gardens and the programs. Please let us know how we can extend your classroom study through a garden visit and be an active partner with your school.

GUIDED GARDENS SCHOOL PROGRAMS:

Available Tuesday through Friday. Correlating standards are listed below. Each program is planned for 1 to 1 ½ hours, or enriched and extended if your schedule allows. Fee of \$4 per student, with the exception of Garden Walk (\$2 per student); \$40 minimum.



SELF-GUIDED GROUPS IN THE GARDENS: Advance registration is required so we can coordinate your visit with other schedules. Self-guided groups are welcome in all areas of the Gardens except the Blomquist Garden. Tours of the Blomquist Garden of Native Plants, which contains rare and endangered plants, are only available when led by trained Gardens docents. Please register by emailing gardenseducation@duke.edu.

HOW TO REGISTER: Call 919-668-1707 or email gardenseducation@duke.edu to request a registration form. Registration is required for all groups planning to visit the Gardens. Thank you for working with us to register your group; collaboration helps us prepare and provide the best experience for your students. We will accommodate your visit on a first-come, first-served basis. Once we reach capacity, those groups without pre-registration may be asked to reschedule their visit.

CHAPERONES: Adult chaperones are required for all youth groups. We recommend a ratio of 3 chaperones per 15 students.

WEATHER: We do take groups out in the rain, unless there is threatening weather that includes lightning; in that case we will reschedule.

CANCELLATION POLICY: You may cancel your enrollment and receive a refund of your fee up to a week before the date of your program. Any program canceled by Duke Gardens will result in a complete refund.

Call 919-668-1707 or email gardenseducation@duke.edu.

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ALL GRADE LEVELS

- **DISCOVERY GARDEN:** Introduce students to agriculture and sustainable gardening. What's the difference between a fruit and a vegetable? What parts of plants do we eat? See bees, chickens, an orchard, vegetables and fruits, a historic tobacco barn and more.
- **MATH IN THE GARDENS:** Measure, multiply or map your way through the garden. Learn about the different kinds of math garden staff use every day and solve your own garden math problem. Program content will be adjusted to match appropriate grade level standards.
- **HAIKU TRAIL:** Recommended for 3rd-8th grades (*meets standards 3.C.1, 6.85*). Develop literacy skills and creative expression through sensory observation. Learn about the haiku poet Basho as you explore the Gardens and collect sensory descriptions to assemble your own haiku
- **A GARDEN WALK:** For larger groups with limited time. A guided walk, planned for 1 hour or less, to introduce students to the four major areas of the garden. Fee of \$1 per student.

PRE-K – K

- **FARM AND FOLK TALES:** Learn about fruits, vegetables and animals in the garden through stories and garden activities.
- **SENSE-ATIONAL STROLL:** Engage all of your senses as you touch, smell, hear, taste and see your way through the garden on this guided walk.
- **BIRDS AND BUTTERFLIES:** Look up to discover the amazing world of winged wildlife in the garden. Through song and movement, learn how birds and butterflies are born.
- **DIRT AND WORMS:** Take a close look at life underground and learn how wiggling worms help the garden grow. What is a worm's life cycle? How do they move? What do they eat? Learn this and more.
- **KNOCK, KNOCK. WHO'S THERE?** Tiptoe through the garden to find signs of animals at home. Learn who lives in the ground and who lives in a tree.

FIRST GRADE

- **HABITAT HUNTERS:** (*meets standard 1.L.1 / 1.L.2*) What do plants and animals need to survive? Go on a scavenger hunt to find animal homes in the Gardens. Find resources and learn how living things get what they need.

SECOND GRADE

- **A BUG'S LIFE:** (*meets standard 2.L.1.2*) What is an insect? Where do they live? Students will learn about and compare the life cycles of garden insects by studying them in their natural habitat.
- **DOUBLE EXPOSURE: Connecting Science and Art at Duke Gardens and The Nasher Museum:** (*meets standard 2.E.1, 2.L.1.2*) An innovative program for 2nd grade school groups with a full day experience that connects science and art. Students visit both Duke Gardens and Nasher Museum of Art. To register, go to nasher.duke.edu/k-12/#k-12-tours or contact the Nasher's education office at 919-684-1169.
Free for DPS students. Otherwise standard fees apply.

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THIRD GRADE

- **SOIL CITY:** (*meets standard 3.L.2.4*) Explore the world of ants, earthworms, pillbugs and other soil dwellers. Students examine basic soil properties throughout the garden and discover how soil supports the growth and survival of living things.
- **PLANT POWER:** (*meets standard EX.3.L.2*) Take a trip through the life cycle of a plant. Learn the different plant structures and how they work to help the plant grow and thrive, and see examples of adaptations to extreme environments in our “plant museum.”

FOURTH GRADE

- **AMAZING ADAPTATIONS:** (*meets standard 4.L.1.2*) What do desert succulents, tropical water lilies, and our local squirrels have in common? Take a walk and see how plants and animals survive using amazing adaptations to their environments.
- **NATIVE TALES:** (*meets standard 4.H.1.1*) Plants have stories to tell. Discover plants used for food and medicine by Native Americans and in modern times in the Blomquist Garden of Native Plants.

FIFTH GRADE

- **BEYOND THE POND:** (*meets standard 5.L.2.1*) Students will examine a pond ecosystem and evaluate the water quality by surveying the smallest creatures of the pond. Limited to 40 students.
- **GARDEN FOOD WEB:** (*meets standard 5.L.2*) Producers, consumers and decomposers in the Gardens are connected in a web of life. Students will create a food web from organisms they have seen in the Gardens, and they will learn the importance of all the community’s connections.
- **TREE DETECTIVES:** (*meets 5th grade science standards*) Learn the fundamentals of plant identification by examining detailed characteristics such as leaf arrangement and structure. Meet a tree and observe details and record your data with your scientific team.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

- **THE FOREST AND THE FARM:** (*meets standards 6.H.2.3, AIS.G.2.3*) Explore the Blomquist Garden of Native Plants to learn how hunter/gatherer cultures found their food, and the Charlotte Brody Discovery Garden to learn about civilization’s transition to agriculture.
- **HAIKU TRAIL INTO THE GARDENS:** (*meets standard 6.85*) Collect words on a sensory walk through the Culberson Asiatic Arboretum, and write, revise and edit your experience into a crafted haiku poem.
- **BEYOND THE POND:** (*meets standards 6.L.2.1, 8.E.1.3*) Students will examine a pond ecosystem and evaluate the water quality by examining benthic macroinvertebrates. Limited to 40 students.

HIGH SCHOOL

- See programs for all ages.

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TEACHER TRAININGS

- **THE NATURE OF ART AND THE ART OF NATURE: Connecting Visual Arts and Natural Science in the Elementary School Classroom and Beyond**

DATES TBA, 9 AM-4 PM

Registration available through the Nasher Museum of Art, 919-684-8816.

- **LEARNING WITH NATURE: Teacher Training for Early Childhood Providers**

Content will include indoor and outdoor hands-on activities that encourage interacting with nature, making environmental connections, facilitating conversations about nature with young children, and ideas for ways to bring nature into the classroom.

Available for groups upon request. Contact us for more details or to schedule this professional development opportunity. 2-4 hours. Participant limit: 25. Fee will be determined on a sliding scale.

Please visit the “learn” page at gardens.duke.edu or call 919-668-1707.