

Field Trip Program: Budding Botanists

At The North Carolina Arboretum

Experiences in our interactive nature classroom as well as our beautiful property are all part of this adventure! Students will learn how bonsai trees are trained, observe plants through a microscope, and learn what plants need to survive and thrive in our gardens and woodlands. A guided stroll along our forested trails and around our gardens will serve to offer students a new way to experience and appreciate the role of plants in our lives.



Principles:

- Botany is the study of plants, which includes a wide spectrum of organisms.
- Plants are living organisms and have specific needs including soil, space, water, sunlight, air and sometimes pollination.
- Plants use sunlight to produce energy that can be used by living organisms throughout the food chain.
- Plants are comprised of particular structures that aid in the survival and reproduction of each species.
- Gardens can be useful in attracting wildlife, growing food and serving as a place for people to enjoy.
- There is a large diversity of woody plant species within the mountains of North Carolina due to particular environmental conditions.

Duration: 1.5 hours

Cost: \$6.00 per student/parent chaperone. Teachers with the school are free. Payment should be given to the instructor at the start of the program. A second program can be booked at a cost of an additional \$3.00 per student.

Months Offered: September-May. Warmer months are preferred as there is more variety of plants in the gardens.

NC Science Essential Standards:

Third Grade: 3.L.2.1, 3.L.2.2, 3.L.2.3

Starting Location: In front of the **Education Center** at the program start time (either 9:30 am or 12:00 pm) set upon booking the program. Groups arriving early may enjoy the property and facilities. Only school groups that have pre-registered for an exhibit visit may enter the exhibits at the Baker Exhibit Center.

What do my students need?

Students should wear clothing that is appropriate for the weather. A majority of the program will take place outdoors, so students, teachers and adult chaperones should wear sturdy footwear. Students with physical disabilities or limitations are capable of participating in the walk, but the instructor should be told prior to day of the program to make any special arrangements.

Want to schedule this program? Contact Michelle Pearce, Youth Education Coordinator, at mpearce@ncarboretum.org or (828) 665-2492 ext. 624