

# Field Trip Program: Branching Out in Botany

At the North Carolina Arboretum

A combination of hands-on laboratory and field experiences enable students to gain a greater understanding of plants in this dynamic program. Students will dissect flowers to explore structures used in reproduction, use microscopes to view plant cells as we discuss photosynthesis and the structures that make it happen. A forest hike and a walk through the gardens searching for tree and plant species utilizing particular reproductive, survival and defense strategies serves to reinforce concepts and examine plant's roles in ecosystems.

## Principles:

- Plants utilize particular structures and functions in order to survive, reproduce and defend themselves.
- Plants use non-living factors of their environment to perform essential functions including photosynthesis, transpiration and respiration.
- Energy converted by plants into sugars supports consumers and decomposers within ecosystems.
- Plants respond to the non-living factors of their environment in their ability to conduct photosynthesis.

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.

NC Science Essential Standards:

Sixth Grade- 6.L.1.1, 6.L.1.2, 6.L.2.2

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](mailto:mpearce@ncarboretum.org) or (828) 665-2492 ext. 624