

# Field Trip Program: Geocaching and Teambuilding

At the North Carolina Arboretum

Get your students out from behind their desks, active and outdoors with this exciting program! We'll develop team dynamics with some communication-rich outdoor games and initiatives here on our 434-acre forested campus. Then we'll learn the basics of using a handheld GPS unit, discuss the technology behind the game, and hunt for several of the ten geocaches located on our property. Students will be in hot pursuit of the caches as they hone in on waypoints, and will get to switch a trinket out of geocaches when found. A great, physically active way to enhance an educational visit to the Arboretum!

## Principles:

- Goals can be met more easily by involving and communicating with every individual in a group.
- Global Positioning Systems use satellites and triangulation to determine the device's position on the globe.
- GPS units can be used to locate waypoints that other individuals have set.
- Geocaching is an outdoor activity combining both recreation and technology.
- GPS technology has many practical applications in science, technology, engineering and mathematics careers.

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.

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

