Field Trips at the State Botanical Garden of Georgia

Field trips are available Tuesday-Friday mornings from September-November and March-May. Programs are correlated to the Georgia Standards of Excellence for K-12 students and range from 1½ -2 hours. For self-guided visits, please contact our education department for assistance.

Foreco’s Garden (K-2nd)
Earth is a garden that we all share! In this field trip, young learners start their adventure with a puppet show that introduces the role of different plants and animals in the forest. They will meet characters such as Foreco, the manager of the forest ecosystem, Suga Magnolia who oversees pollination, and Oli Earthworm who takes care of the soil. With sensory-filled activities, students will then be guided through the surrounding gardens and forest, learning about the connections between all living things.

- GSE: SKE2, SKL1, SKL2, S1L1, S2E3
- Group Size: up to 60
- Fee: $5/student

Georgia Discovery Quest (2nd-5th)
Discover what makes our great state unique! Through exploration of the Alice H. Richards Children’s Garden, students will learn about the diversity of plants, animals, geology and river systems of Georgia. Students will find their local watershed, investigate the rocks and minerals that support our soil, and learn what species can be found in our eco-region. Visit the garden and leave an expert in Georgia’s diverse resources.

- GSE: S2E3, S3G.1, S3E1, S3E2, S3L1, S3L2, S4L1
- Group Size: up to 75
- Fee: $5/student

Remarkable Rainforests (2nd-5th)
An amazing array of plants and animals live in the tropical rainforests of the world. While they are located thousands of miles away, students can explore their unique ecosystem in the Botanical Garden’s Tropical Conservatory and learn how the rainforest is important to our daily lives. A puppet show and mural activity, a plant discovery hunt, searching for animals from the canopy, and other hands-on activities help children explore the world of tropical rainforests, plant adaptations and conservation.

- GSE: S2E3, S3L2, S4L1, S5L1
- Group Size: up to 30
- Fee: $5/student

Plants We Use (3rd-5th)
In this field trip, students learn that Georgia’s landscapes, kitchens, medicine cabinets and households are filled with plant products from around the world. Students will participate in a variety of activities and explorations that teach about the importance of native and non-native plants. “The Plant is Right” game highlights the uses of plants in common household products, while the Plant Explorer’s Hunt illustrates the importance of plants from around the world and throughout history. Come along on this adventure to discover the wonderful world of plants!

- GSE: S3L2, S3H2
- Group Size: up to 60
- Fee: $5/student

Contact
706-583-0894
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Stream Ecology (3rd-7th)
Our local watersheds are a main factor of our daily lives, from the health of our drinking water to the foods we eat. Starting in our indoor classroom, students will use a watershed model to investigate how people use and impact their aquatic ecosystems. Learners will then hike down to our woodland stream with their instructor to get their hands in the water, catching different critters for identification. Based on the diversity of captured organisms, water temperature and pH level, students will assess the stream’s water quality and discuss ways to conserve this valuable resource.

- GSE: S3L2, S4L1, S5L1, S6E3, S6E6, S7L1, S7L4
- Group Size: up to 60
- Fee: $5/student

Art and Nature (4th-12th)
Connect your students’ interests in science and the arts with this guided field trip through the Porcelain and Decorative Art Museum. By looking at how different artists perceive the natural environment through various mediums and throughout history, and creating their own artwork based on what they have discovered, students will explore how the intersection of art and nature can be beneficial in fostering environmental advocacy.

- GSE: VA4-5.CR.2, VA4-5.CN.1, VA4-5.CN.2, VA6-8.RE.1, VA6-8.CN.1, VA6-8.CN.3, VAHSAD.RE.1, VAHSAD.CN.1, VAHSAD.CN.3
- Group Size: up to 30
- Fee: $5/student

Medicinal Plants (4th-8th)
Native plants of the southeastern forests have been used for hundreds of years to treat common ailments. Through discovery hunts, hands-on science experiments with chromatography, investigating the consequences of over-collection, and making herbal products for take-home remedy kits, students will learn about the importance of plants in the past and present medical world.

- GSE: S6E6
- Group Size: up to 45
- Fee: $8/student

Eco-Health (6th-12th)
In this excursion, students will examine the overall health of the State Botanical Garden ecosystem by collecting and comparing data at several plots throughout the forest trails. Using introductory observation tools, learners will study plant and animal diversity, soil quality and the effects of invasive species. Collected data can be compiled over the years and shared for analysis and discussion back in the classroom to understand the significance of ecosystem health over time.

- GSE: S7L1, S7L4, S8S, SBO6, SEC2, SEC3, SEC5, SEV2, SEV4
- Group Size: up to 60
- Fee: $5/student

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