Childhood’s Gate Children’s Garden

Scheduled Drop-In Programs for July 2021

Backyard Birds and Beyond
July 2, 9, 16, 23—10:00 a.m. to noon
Join Alissa of Paper Bird Creative and Education for demonstrations and activities focusing on our feathered friends. Learn how the avian and human worlds intersect and why birds are not only beautiful but important to our local environment.

Nurturing Naturalists
July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31—10:00 a.m. to noon
Join Alissa of Paper Bird Creative and Education for fun games and activities about a variety of nature-based topics.

Insects of the Arboretum with the Frost Entomological Museum
July 6—10:00 a.m. to noon
Explore the wonderful world of insects! Spend some extra time observing the insects and spiders that you see. What are they doing? What plants are they on? How many different kinds are there? We will provide directions for an insect-themed scavenger hunt and will have a variety of preserved insects on site to view under the microscope.

Centre Wildlife Care
July 6 and 20—1:00 to 2:00 p.m.
Meet creatures from Centre Wildlife Care and learn how animal rehabilitators do their work, why animals need to be rescued, and how to help an animal in need.

Exploring Plants
July 7, 14, 21, and 28—10:00 to 11:00 a.m.
Join us for hands-on activities, games, and scientific exploration about plants and garden life. Scavenger hunts, exploration walks, book readings, poem writing, small crafts, and seed plantings will all be explored over the course of the summer.

Music in the Garden
July 7, 14, 21, and 28—10:00 a.m. to noon
Join musician Kyle Siskron-Leonard and make some wonderful sounds in the children’s garden!
Rocks Rock with Lincoln Caverns  
July 8—10:00 a.m. to noon  
Discover the wonders of the world below our feet with cave science educators from Lincoln Caverns!

Illuminating Plants  
July 12 and 26—10:00 a.m. to noon  
Explore the children’s garden with us and discover how different wavelengths of light, both visible and invisible, affect us, plants, pollinators, and other insects.

Vermicomposting with Master Gardeners  
July 13—10:00 a.m. to noon  
Join Master Gardeners to learn what worms eat, how worms interact with the soil, and why worms are important for plant growth. Participants will be able to touch a worm and build their own worm composting farm to take home!

Garden Yoga  
July 14, 21, 28—10:00 to 10:30 a.m. at the Overlook Pavilion  
Join yoga instructor Kathleen Zdenek at the Overlook Pavilion for a yoga class suitable for all ages but especially for children!

Galls of the Arboretum with the Frost Entomological Museum  
July 19—10:00 a.m. to noon  
Have you ever wondered what the peculiar balls and swellings on plants were? Those are galls! Learn about different galls you might see at the Arboretum and why the relationship between galling insects and plants is so unique. We will provide a gall-themed scavenger hunt and will have a variety of galls and preserved galling insects to view under a microscope!

All drop-in programs in the children’s garden are free for visitors. Programs take place in the children’s garden unless otherwise specified. Groups may be accommodated if space permits. All events, programs, and activities are dependent on weather and may be canceled in the event of inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstances. All minors must be accompanied by a parent and/or legal guardian during all events, programs, and activities unless registration or marketing materials explicitly state otherwise.

Backyard Birds and Beyond is sponsored by The Arboretum at Penn State’s Avian Education Program. Nurturing Naturalists, Exploring Plants, Illuminating Plants, Vermicomposting with Master Gardeners, and Centre Wildlife Care are sponsored by the Mark Jay Tygel Endowment for Educational Programs in The Arboretum at Penn State.

The Pennsylvania State University encourages qualified persons with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation or have questions about the physical access provided, please contact Tim Gould at 814-867-4262 in advance of your participation or visit.

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