Childhood’s Gate Children’s Garden
Scheduled Drop-In Programs for August 2021

Vermicomposting with Master Gardeners
August 3—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. Touch a worm and build a worm composting farm to take home!

Centre Wildlife Care
August 3, 17—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
August 4, 11, 18, 25—10:00 to 11:00 a.m.
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
August 4, 11, 18, 25—10:00 a.m. to noon
Join musician Kyle Siskron-Leonard and make some wonderful sounds in the children’s garden!

Backyard Birds and Beyond
August 6, 13—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
August 7, 14—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.

Stories Under the Sky
August 5, 12, 26—7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
Researchers from Penn State’s Department of Anthropology and storytellers from the State College community share histories, myths, and legends from diverse cultures under the open sky. Followed by stargazing if skies are clear.
Junior Cave Explorer with Lincoln Caverns
August 12—10:00 a.m. to noon
Discover the wonders of the world below our feet with cave science educators from Lincoln Caverns!

Magic of Music
August 15—1:00 to 2:00 p.m.
The innovative duo “Revamped” will present a fun-filled concert for the whole family, complete with musical time travel, superpowers, and shenanigans! Bring a blanket or folding chair for more comfortable seating. Presented in partnership with Penn’s Woods 4 Kids and the Penn’s Woods Music Festival. Bring a folding chair or blanket for comfortable seating.

Illuminating Plants
August 16—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.

Cave Day: Explore the World Below Us!
August 28—10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Join us for a one-day exploration of the world that lies beneath the limestone valleys of central Pennsylvania! Community and University partners will offer hands-on activities, demonstrations, and presentations that enable visitors to rappel into the science and wonder of caves, karsts, sinkholes, and groundwater.

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, Centre Wildlife Care, and Stories Under the Sky 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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