

Aldridge Botanical Gardens Field Trip Reservation Form

To schedule a field trip, or for more information, contact Vasha Rosenblum at
 aldridgevr@bellsouth.net or
 682-8019 ext. 3 or cell phone 910-3211

Person requesting trip:	
Email:	
School name and system:	
School Address:	
School Fax:	
Phone:	School: Home: Cell:
Date of trip(s):	
Time of trip (9-11:00, 9:30-11:30; 9-10:00, 9:30-10:30)	
Number of classes:	
Topic:	<input type="checkbox"/> Trees (K) 1 hour <input type="checkbox"/> Habitat Hunters(1 st) 2 hours <input type="checkbox"/> Soils/Worms (2 nd) 2 hours <input type="checkbox"/> Plant Propagation (3 rd) 2 hours <input type="checkbox"/> Private Eye Insect Life Cycles (4 th) <input type="checkbox"/> Private Eye Insects/Ecosystems (4 th) <input type="checkbox"/> Geometry Garden (5 th) 2 hours
Contact information for those who will be leading each group each day	Teacher 1 name: Cell and home phone: Email: Teacher 2 name: Cell and home phone: Email:
Total number of adults (teachers and students)	
Total number of students (\$3.00 each to cover expenses)	
Number of physically challenged students with type of disability	
Number of ELL students/Level of proficiency	
Will you be staying for picnic after field trip?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Description of Field Trips

Meet the Trees! (Kindergarten)

In this one-hour field trip, students will "meet" a variety of trees on the grounds at Aldridge Botanical Gardens. Through dramatic play, they will experience how it feels to be a tree and/or a sprouting acorn. A highlight of the trip is playing "Squirrels and Trees" after talking about how trees are good for people and for wildlife. Aldridge Botanical Gardens will provide, free of charge, a "baby tree" for your students to observe for two weeks during your tree study. At the end of the two weeks, we can help you plant the tree on your school grounds or pick it up and bring it back to the Garden.

Habitat Hunters (Grade 1)

This two-hour trip begins with an introduction to quiet, thoughtful observation in nature. The trip has two explorations: Teacher/Leader guided and Docent guided. For the Teacher/Leader exploration, children will visit lake, meadow, or woodland habitats. A one-page guide for these habitats will list things to look for as well as questions to provoke curiosity and discussion. In the Docent-guided part of the trip, students will visit the children's vegetable garden to observe the kinds of plants that grow from different vegetable seeds, where the seeds come from, and the interdependence of plants and animals in this environment. The program has been developed to help children develop an appreciation of the delicate balance of nature, the importance of plants and animals in a healthy environment, and the child's role in preserving this balance.

Down to Earth: A Worm's-Eye View of Soil Science (Grade 2)

This two-part trip includes a lesson on soils and a lesson on vermiculture (using redworms to recycle food waste and newspaper for the purpose of producing nutrient rich fertilizer for plants). In the soils part of the lesson, students will differentiate among the properties of soil and identify soil components (sand, silt, clay, humus). They will observe how plants grow in different soils, conduct temperature and percolation tests, and learn about the importance of composting. In the vermiculture section, students will learn about the interdependence of plants and worms, observe how worm offspring are similar to their parents, observe behaviors of worms that help them to survive, and harvest worms from finished vermicompost. The trip lasts approximately 2 hours.

Plant Propagation (Grade 3)

This two-part trip includes a lesson in propagating plants and a walk through the garden to observe plants grown from bulbs, seeds, cuttings, runners and layering. An education docent will guide a lesson in which students review the parts of a plant and their functions as well as the parts of a flower and their functions. Each student will propagate three plants using seeds, runners and cuttings. Classroom teachers will lead the tour through the garden using a map to find examples of plants being propagated in different ways. The whole trip will last approximately two hours.

Private Eye® Investigations:

Insect Life Cycles (Grade 4)

This one-hour trip includes a hands-on discovery session with the Darkling Beetle. Students will learn to differentiate between complete and incomplete metamorphosis, observe body structure and conduct a test to determine how temperature affects behavior of each development stage.

Private Eye® Investigations:

Ecosystems at Aldridge Botanical Gardens (Grade 4)

This 1 1/2-hour field trip begins with an insect search in the field trip garden with a focus on developing an understanding of the natural balance found in ecosystems. Students will make scientific observations of insect samples using the Private Eye® teaching strategy to make analogies and create art and even poetry. Each Private Eye® trip can be followed by an optional scavenger hunt to accommodate group size.

A Private Eye® teacher resource kit is available for checkout by interested teachers to extend the explorations using this instructional technique.

Geometry Garden (Grade 5)

This two-part trip includes a visit to the "geometry garden" where students measure raised growing beds to find the perimeter, area, and volume, then calculate the cost of filling the beds with soil. In addition, they will identify parallel and perpendicular lines, and estimate the angles of the various beds. In the second part students will learn how to measure a tree and how points are calculated to identify champion trees. The trip will last approximately 2 hours.

Field Trips are offered from: September 21 – October 30, 2009, and from March 24 through May 7, 2010. Due to the size of the gardens we request that no more than 2 classes (50 children) come on the same date. Please provide one adult chaperone for each 10 students.

A fee of \$3 per student is requested to cover materials.

A picnic area is available if you would like to follow your field trip with an outdoor lunch.