

BOTANY

Thursdays, January 28-April 29 (no class Feb 18, Apr 8; 12 weeks)

12:30-1:45pm

Ages 6-8

Students study the diversity of plants as they investigate the anatomy, adaptations and behaviors of various types of plants, and explore pollination, propagation and growth of plants through hands-on activities and experimentation. All lab costs are included in registration fee. Course enrollment is limited to 12 students.

Instructor: Christina St. Martin, MSc

Location: Science Center (suite 5)

Course fee: \$220 OR \$20/lab

10% sibling discount

LAB SCHEDULE:

Plant Anatomy - Thursday, January 28

Kids explore plant anatomy at the gross and cellular level as they investigate parts of a plant and learn the proper use of microscopes to view plant cells and their organelles.

Photosynthesis - Thursday, February 4

We study to process that plants use to make food by conducting a photosynthesis experiment.

Pollination – Thursday, February 11

This week we focus on pollination as we dissect flowers, learn about pollinators and conduct a pollination experiment.

Seed Dissection – Thursday, February 25

Students investigate different types of seeds through simple dissections, and determine the scientific difference between fruits versus vegetables.

Plant Propagation – Thursday, March 4

We explore different ways plants make more of themselves as we plant seeds and learn how to propagate new plants using parts of other plants.

Phototropism – Thursday, March 11

Today, we study phototropism to see how plants orient themselves toward or away from a light source, and create a maze box to see how our plants find light as they grow.

Dendrology – Thursday, March 18

Kids become tree scientists as they distinguish between deciduous and evergreen trees, learn how we identify tree species by their leaves and bark, and conduct a pine cone experiment.

Terrarium Science – Thursday, March 25

Kids learn about mosses and lichens and what these organisms need to survive as they build their own moss terrarium to take home.

Plant Adaptations – Thursday, April 1

In this lab, we investigate protective adaptations many plants have to reduce the likelihood of being eaten by herbivores.

Unusual Plants – Thursday, April 15

We investigate the unusual adaptations of Venus fly traps, pitcher plants, aquatic plants, and air plants to see how they survive in their unique environments.

Desert Plants – Thursday, April 22

Students explore cacti and succulents to see how they are able to survive and flourish in the harsh conditions of desert environments.

Epiphytes and Parasitic Plants – Thursday, April 29

Ever see plants growing on other plants? We study how some plants are epiphytes (they just grow on other plants) and some are parasitic (they get nutrients from a living host plant).