



## BIRMINGHAM BOTANICAL GARDENS

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Date:** February 8, 2011

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### **Children's Summer Camps, a family tradition**

Camps now being offered for children 4 to 5 years old

**Birmingham, Ala.** – Children's Summer Camps at Birmingham Botanical Gardens offer a wide array of favorite topics from nature and the outdoors to plants and our environment to cooking and art. Programs are designed to actively promote children's natural sense of creativity and discovery with fun learning experiences in The Gardens' unmatched beauty.

Starting this year, camps will be offered for four to five year olds entering fall preschool programs. All sessions are taught by certified teachers or otherwise highly qualified instructors. Parents are asked to pack a lunch and water bottle for their child, but a light snack is provided. The Gardens also has t-shirts for sale during the week for those wanting a souvenir to take home.

Space is limited for the popular camps, so advanced registration is required. For more information or to register by phone, call Ellen Hardy, Education Program Coordinator, at 205.414.3953. To register online, visit [www.bbgardens.org](http://www.bbgardens.org).

#### **About Birmingham Botanical Gardens**

Birmingham Botanical Gardens is Alabama's largest living museum with more than 10,000 different plants in its living collections. The Gardens' 67.5 acres contains more than 25 unique gardens, 30+ works of original outdoor sculpture and miles of serene paths. The Gardens features the largest public horticulture library in the U.S., conservatories, a wildflower garden, two rose gardens, the Southern Living garden, and Japanese Gardens with a traditionally crafted tea house. Education programs run year round and more than 10,000 school children enjoy free science-curriculum based field trips annually. The Gardens is open daily, offering free admission to more than 350,000 yearly visitors.

## CHILDREN'S SUMMER CAMPS SCHEDULE

### **Explore The Gardens with Winnie the Pooh**

May 31-June 3, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For 4 and 5-year-olds entering fall preschool programs

\$128/\$102 Members

Mary Marcoux, Science Teacher and Fontaine Haskell, Art Teacher

Come help Winnie search for summer treasures such as bees, caterpillars, butterflies, and other creepy crawlies. We will learn how certain insects help flowers make seeds, and plant our own little mini gardens to take home. Art projects, games, stories and songs will enhance each day's discoveries.

### **Painting and Pastels in The Gardens**

May 31-June 3, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For children entering 3rd-6th grades

Instructor: Mary Jane Coker

\$128/\$102 Members

This exclusive camp gives artists the opportunity to combine mediums and experiment with charcoal, chalk pastels, oil pastels, watercolors, and acrylic paints to create unique pieces of art inspired by the gardens we will visit.

### **Nature Explorers**

June 6-10, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For 4 and 5-year-olds entering fall preschool programs

Instructor: Ashley Harper, B.S. Elementary Education

\$160/\$128 Members

Get ready to explore a new garden path each day as you discover the many habitats at The Gardens and the wonder of nature. Let your discoveries inspire fun nature projects as well as tasty snack creations.

### **Water Wonders: Raindrops, Streams and Ponds**

June 6-10, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For children entering 5K-2nd grades

Instructor: Mary Marcoux

\$160/\$128 Members

Water is an irresistible magnet, as well as something needed by all living things. Join us in exploring the water features at The Gardens. We will discover some fascinating things about water, including how nature recycles this precious resource. Participants will create Japanese watercolor scroll paintings and plant individual terrariums, along with learning some new ways to celebrate the wonders of water by carrying out simple experiments!

### **Garden Adventures with American Girl**

June 6-10, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For children entering 5k-2nd grades

Instructors: Robin and Emmeline Geurs

\$160/\$128 Members

Come explore The Gardens through the eyes of an "American Girl" with daily arts/ crafts, stories, songs, recipes, and nature projects inspired by the lives of characters such as Kit, Molly and Julie!

**Art in the Afternoon: Paper Mache Pollinators**

June 13-17, 1 to 4 p.m.

For children entering 5K-2nd grades

Instructor: Brooke Carruthers

\$160/\$128 Members

Explore The Gardens' many insect habitats and discover pollinators from bugs, bees- even bats. Cool off afterwards with paper mache and other fun activities inspired by all the discoveries we will make!

**Art in the Afternoon: Printmaking in The Gardens**

June 13-17, 1 to 4 p.m.

For children entering 3rd-6th grades

Instructor: Mary Jane Coker

\$120/\$96 Members

Artists will explore monoprinting, wood and linoleum carving and a painting technique called aquatint. All prints will be made from drawings done throughout The Gardens.

**Calling all Flower Fairies**

June 20-24, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For 4 and 5-year-olds entering fall preschool programs

Instructor: Lisa Dolensky

\$160/\$128 Members

Earn your wings, wands, tiaras & tutus exploring garden glam creatures, flowers, plants & fairy lore through drama, dance, fairy journals, costume crafts, painting, nature studies and a garden tea party as fancy as Nancy!

**Garden Adventures with American Girl**

June 20-24, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For children entering 5K-2nd grades

Instructors: Robin and Emmeline Geurs

\$160/\$128 Members

Come explore The Gardens through the eyes of an "American Girl" with daily arts/ crafts, stories, songs, recipes, and nature projects inspired by the lives of characters such as Kit, Molly and Julie!

**Southern Summer Chefs**

June 27-July 1, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For children entering 5K-2nd grades

Instructor: Ashley Harper

\$160/\$128 Members

Join us for five days full of harvesting, smelling, tasting, creating, and cooking at The Gardens! Bring in your favorite recipe to submit for our own cookbook, paint an apron, and plant your very own kitchen garden to take home so you can have fun cooking and tasting all summer!

**Southern Summer Chefs**

June 27-July 1, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For children entering 3rd-6th grades

Instructor: Donna Long

\$160/\$128 Members

Join us for five days full of harvesting, smelling, tasting, creating, and cooking at The Gardens! Bring in your favorite recipe to submit for our own cookbook, paint an apron, and plant your very own kitchen garden to take home so you can have fun cooking and tasting all summer!

### **Monet's Garden**

July 11-15, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
For children entering 3rd-6th grades  
Donna Long, B.S. Elementary Education  
\$160/\$128 Members

Capture the bright colors and life in The Gardens this summer through the eyes of an artist. Projects include painting Japanese bridge reflections and water lilies, just like Monet. The various gardens we visit will inform the daily themes.

### **Let's Dig Up Some Fun**

July 18-22, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
For children entering 5K-2nd grades  
Instructor: Jenifer Harper  
\$160/\$128 Members

Do you like to dig in the soil? Meet some other creatures who like to do the same thing- and help our environment while doing so. We'll explore the wonder of "wrigglers" and the magic of plants.

### **Animal Adventures from the Egg and Beyond...**

July 18-22, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
For children entering 3rd-6th grades  
Instructor: Helena Uber-Wamble  
\$160/\$128 Members

Learn about animals both large and small who start out by hatching from an egg. Each day we will feature a different group of animals.

### **Bug Expedition**

July 25-29, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
For 4 and 5-year-olds entering fall preschool programs  
Instructor: Lisa Dolensky  
\$160/\$128 Members

Insectigate garden critters and habitats through games, creative story telling/dictation, illustration, buggy crafts, sensory centers, and scientific studies inspired by Eric Carle read- alouds.

### **It's A Buggy World**

July 25-29, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
For children entering 5K-2nd grades  
\$160/\$128 Members

A classic favorite returns this summer. Explore The Gardens' many insect habitats to discover bees and a world of other insects. Craft special "buggy" art/nature projects as well as special snacks- all inspired by discoveries we will make!