

INVERTEBRATE INVESTIGATIONS

Peek into the amazing world of invertebrates, the most successful life form on the planet. Students will observe and handle live insects, a tarantula and millipedes. They'll learn about the characteristics of insects, arachnids and arthropods, and the role they play in ecosystems.

Grades K-5 | 60 mins | \$150

CONTRA COSTA WATER DISTRICT CLASS

Students learn about water, its role in California's history, and how to be clean water activists. Includes teacher resources, handouts and all experiment materials. Presentation length varies by grade level.

Grades 3-5 | 60-90 mins | FREE to schools in Central/East Contra Costa, thanks to generous sponsorship by CCWD. *Limited availability.*



SEED SECRETS (Single Class)

Students work together to dissect lima beans and to learn and identify each part of a seed and its function. Teams plant alfalfa seeds to grow and chart as an in-class extension.

Grades K-2 | 60 mins | \$150

SEED SECRETS (Series)

In this three-part seed series building on the single-class version, an educator will visit your class three times over a three-week period to observe plant growth from seed to plant.

Alfalfa seeds and pea seeds are planted in the classroom, and observation charts and materials are provided. The series ends with a study of leaf colors.

Grades K-2 | Three 60-min sessions | \$275



Schedule a Class

Fill out an online class request form on our website:
www.gardenshf.org/natural-science-classroom

Cancellations/Rescheduling

Program fees will be refunded if cancellations are made at least four weeks prior to reserved date. In the event of inclement weather, programs will be held indoors or rescheduled if possible.

Special Programs

Our programs can be tailored to meet the needs, interests and abilities of any group, including home-school programs, day-care classes and scout troops. Let us know if your students have special needs, or if there is a particular emphasis you would like during the program.

The Gardens at Heather Farm is an independent 501(c)3 nonprofit organization operating an education center, public garden and special event venue.



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The Natural Science Classroom

THE GARDENS
at Heather Farm
A nonprofit

Providing hands-on science and environmental education for school and youth groups since 1984.

www.gardenshf.org



Welcome to The Natural Science Classroom!

The Natural Science Classroom offers a wide variety of science and environmental education programs for students of all ages and abilities. Each program includes an interactive presentation, hands-on activities, and teacher resource materials. The programs are designed to support your classroom curriculum through alignment with the California State Science Standards and provide students with sensory and scientific explorations that inspire a deeper appreciation and understanding of the natural world.



SENSORY GARDEN

Through this sensory exploration of the garden, students investigate how the smells, shapes, textures, and colors of plants help them survive. Classes will receive a plant to take back to school.
Grades K-3 | 60 mins | \$150 | *Only at The Gardens*

WET AND WILD: EXPLORING CREEKS AND PONDS

Visit the Heather Farm creek and pond to investigate the hidden lives of some amazing plants and animals. We'll discover how these creatures adapt to underwater life and learn how we can protect the health of aquatic habitats.
Grades K-5 | 60 mins | \$150 | *Only at The Gardens*

NATURE DETECTIVES

Explore the green spaces around your school to identify the plants, trees, and signs of animal and insect life all around you. Students will wrap up the class by proposing projects to make their school a welcome place for their nature discoveries. For the field trip version of this program, students will explore the Heather Farm pond and follow clues like tracks and scat to learn about the plants and animals that share our urban habitat.
Grades K-5 | 60 mins | \$150

NATIVE PLANTS, NATIVE PEOPLE

With artifacts, games, stories and crafts, we'll bring the past alive and discover how the first Californians used native plants. We'll make hoops & ropes from reeds and willow.
Grades 3-5 | 120 mins | \$200

COLONIAL GARDENS

Travel back in time to discover how plants were used for medicine, cosmetics, food, fragrance, dye and fiber. Explore The Gardens at Heather Farm, make an art project, and play colonial games.
Grades 3-5 | 60 mins | \$150 | *Only at The Gardens*

THE POWER OF POLLINATORS

Learn about the insects and animals that help plants create seeds and fruit by moving pollen from plant to plant. Find out how pollinators and plants communicate with each other as you learn about bees, butterflies, and more.
Grades K-5 | 60 mins | \$150



GEOLOGY ROCKS

Explore our collection of rocks and minerals brought to your classroom. Learn how to classify and identify rocks, see how fossils are discovered in our traveling archaeology kit, and discover the rocks and minerals present in things we use every day.
Grades 1-3 | 60-mins | \$150

DO THE ROT THING: SOILS AND COMPOSTING

Dig in and investigate the science of soil and decomposition. Students will solve a compost insect mystery, create a compost experiment, and discover our role in green waste recycling and conservation.
Grades K-5 | 60-mins | \$150*

WONDERFUL WORMS

Through experiments and observation, students investigate the hidden life of this fascinating recycler and create a classroom worm bin.
Grades K-5 | 60 mins | \$150*

*Discount available to qualifying schools thanks to generous sponsorship by RecycleSmart

