



VanDusen
BOTANICAL GARDEN

5251 Oak St. at West 37th Ave
Vancouver BC V6M 4H1
www.VanDusenGarden.org

School Programs for Grades K-7



2011/2012

Program Availability and Cost

“I am never going to forget that field trip.”
- Cynthia, Grade 3

Program Seasonal Availability

Guided Program	Grades	Sep	Oct	Nov	Mar	Apr	May	June
A Sense of Nature	K-2		y			y	y	y
Ecosystems & Adaptations	4-7		y	y	y	y	y	y
Fantastic Flowers	1-3					y	y	y
Pond Peering	K-4					y	y	y
Seed Secrets	K-4		y	y				
Self Guided	any	y	y	y	y	y	y	y

Please remember that a visit to VanDusen’s popular Elizabethan Maze is not part of a 90 minute guided program. If you plan to go to the maze, please do so either before or after your program.

Cost

Guided Programs - 90 minutes

\$6.00/student

VanDusen requires a **minimum** of one adult per 10 students. We can only accommodate a **maximum** of one adult per 4 students to accompany students on a guided tour. One adult per 4 students is admitted **free of charge** as part of the group. This includes both teachers and chaperones.

Any additional adults are welcome to enter the Garden for \$10.00, but may not be able to accompany the group.

“The whole program was wonderful. I appreciate so much the beauty and knowledge available to us because of the Garden.”

– Teacher, Grades 1-3

Guided Programs

All school programs at VanDusen Botanical Garden aim to enhance environmental stewardship and a love of the natural world.



A Sense of Nature: K – Grade 2

Rough, smooth, stinky, dark green, pointy. As they explore the garden, students describe and compare similarities and differences among plants using as many of their senses as possible. Through fun, hands-on activities, students identify key parts of plants, play the Maple Leaf Match-up, make their own sticky trail card, and more!

Curriculum Connections

- Kindergarten Processes of Science
- Kindergarten Life Science: Characteristics of Living Things
- Grade 1 Processes of Science
- Grade 1 Life Science: Needs of Living Things
- Grade 2 Processes of Science



Seed Secrets: K – Grade 3

Seeds fly, float, hitchhike – and even travel through the stomachs of birds – all in order to spread to new places and grow. Students explore the Garden in search of seeds with parachutes, hooks or fleshy fruit surrounding them. Students will dissect seeds and make travelling seeds cards to take home. This tour also includes an investigation into the many signs of the fall season.

Curriculum Connections: Life Science

- Kindergarten: Characteristics of Living Things
- Grade 1: Needs of Living Things
- Grade 3: Plant Growth and Change



Pond Peering: K - Grade 4

Hidden beneath the surface of VanDusen's ponds, lakes and streams is a diverse world of beautiful and strange life. Students explore and learn about the pond environment, use nets to dip into a pond and identify the creatures they find.

Curriculum Connections: Life Science

- Kindergarten: Characteristics of Living Things
- Grade 1: Needs of Living Things
- Grade 2/3: Animal Growth and Change/Plant Growth and Change
- Grade 4: Habitats and Communities



Fantastic Flowers: Grades 1-3

As students enjoy the beauty and fragrance of flowers throughout VanDusen, they investigate the parts of a flower, their role in pollination, and how pollination fits in the life cycle of flowering plants. Students will search for pollinators in action, explore the interdependence between pollinators and plants, and their role in food production. A visit to the beehives is included.

Curriculum Connections

- Grade 1 Life Science: Needs of Living Things
- Grade 2 Processes of Science: Use their senses to interpret observations
- Grade 3 Processes of Science: Ask questions that foster investigations and explorations relevant to the content
- Grade 3 Life Science: Plant growth and change



Ecosystems & Adaptations: Grades 4-7

Within the tranquil beauty of VanDusen exists a complex and intimately connected ecosystem. During a mini-Bioblitz, students find plants and animals living in the Garden and investigate how they are interrelated. Students will also examine the structural adaptations that plants have evolved to survive and thrive in different environments.

Curriculum Connections: Life Science

- Grade 4: Habitats and Communities
- Grade 6: Diversity of Life - Adaptations
- Grade 7: Ecosystems

Catch a free ride on the Nature Express!

Thanks to generous support from RBC Foundation®, if you are coming from an **inner city school** you may be eligible for a FREE bus (up to \$300) to bring you to and from VanDusen Botanical Garden. Contact 604-718-5898 for more information.



RBC Foundation®

Self Guided Visits

“Excellent for city kids to experience natural spaces.”
- Teacher, Grade 2

Many schools choose to plan and conduct their own day at VanDusen Botanical Garden. You are very welcome to use the Garden to reinforce your classroom teaching - be it science, math, social studies or art. A visit to the maze is also a must!

We are happy to offer maps and a sample of self-guided activities to assist you during your visit. These will be sent to you upon registration.

To book your self-guided trip, just call us at [604-718-5898](tel:604-718-5898).

Cost

Self-Guided Visits

\$4.00/student (HST included)

One adult per 4 students is admitted **free of charge** as part of the group. This includes both teachers and chaperones. Additional adults will be charged the student rate of \$4.00.



Plan Your Visit

How to Register:

Once you choose a program and pick potential dates for your visit, you have **two** options:

1) Visit our website at www.vandusengarden.org and print the registration form from the Children and Families > School Programs page. Fill in the form and fax it to 604-263-1777, *or*

2) Call [604-718-5898](tel:604-718-5898) or email schoolprograms@vandusen.org and provide the following information:

- Program Name
- Date and time (10 a.m. or 12:30 p.m.) of program and alternative dates
- Grade level and number of students (max. 30 per time slot)
- School name, address and phone number
- Contact name, phone number and email address
- Any special needs or ESL students

Once you have booked your trip, you will receive a Field Trip Reservation form which you must complete and return to VanDusen Education with a \$60.00 deposit to secure your booking.

After we have received your deposit we will email you a confirmation letter and field trip pre-visit package.

“Our field trip to VanDusen Garden definitely enhanced our learning and interest in plants that grow in our area. I suspect that the children will be back very soon with their families.”

- Teacher, Grade 4

“I enjoyed collecting pollen. I felt like a bee”

- Rachel, Grade 3



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Our mission at Vandusen Botanical Garden:

To inspire understanding of the vital importance of plants to all life through the excellence of our botanical collections, programs and practices.

“Dear Vandusen Garden, thank you for the field trip and giving us a tour. I learned that plants are important to the earth.”

- Aliyah, Grade 2



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