

## School Programs for Grades K-7

2011/2012



### **A Sense of Nature: K – Grade 2 (Oct. & Apr. - June)**

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!

### **Ecosystems & Adaptations: Grades 4 - 7 (Oct., Nov., & Apr. - June)**

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.



### **Seed Secrets: K – Grade 3 (Oct. - Nov.)**

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.

### **Fantastic Flowers: Grades 1-3 (Apr. - June)**

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.



### **Pond Peering: K - Grade 4 (Apr. - June)**

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.

### **Self-Guided (Year round)**

Plan your own day at VanDusen Botanical Garden. We are happy to offer some materials to assist you during your visit.

### **Special exhibit! A Forest Journey Oct. 1 - Dec. 31**

We are excited to present the travelling exhibit, A Forest Journey. Interactive, educational and fun for students of all ages, this exhibit delves into ecosystems, botany, biodiversity and conservation while exploring humans' connections to forests for medicine, fuel and other tree products. Comprehensive educators guide and exhibit details available at: [www2.fi.edu/exhibitservices/forestjourney.php](http://www2.fi.edu/exhibitservices/forestjourney.php)

**COST per 90 min. program:** \$6.00/student  
**Self guided:** \$4/student  
1 adult per 4 students admitted free

#### **MORE INFORMATION:**

**Phone:** 604-718-5898

**Email:** [schoolprograms@vandusen.org](mailto:schoolprograms@vandusen.org)  
[www.vandusengarden.org](http://www.vandusengarden.org)

### **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 us for more information.



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