

## **Junior Gardener Course Descriptions**

### **Butterflies: Flowers that Fly**

#### *Topics:*

This course covers the basics about butterflies.

The class will learn:

- The change in butterflies from egg, to caterpillar, to chrysalis, to butterfly again
- What butterflies eat and drink
- What flowers and colors butterflies like
- Where Monarch butterflies go in the winter

#### *Grade level:*

This course is offered for Grades K-2.

#### *Indoor/outdoor:*

This is an indoor course.

#### *Timing:*

This course is offered March through May and September through late October. See the current brochure for specific dates in the current semester.

#### *Course Instructors:*

Barbara Howse

### **The Buzz on Bees**

#### *Topics:*

This course covers the basics of honeybees and beehives.

The class will learn about:

How honeybees pollinate flowers and the importance of pollination

- The life cycle of honeybees
- What goes on in a beehive
- Special beekeeping tools, clothing, and equipment that a beekeeper uses.

#### *Grade level:*

This course is offered for Grades 1-3.

#### *Indoor/outdoor:*

This is an indoor course.

#### *Timing:*

This course is offered from March through May and from mid-September to mid-November. See the current brochure for specific dates in the current semester.

#### *Course Instructors:*

Janet Elling, Sherie Stiles, Letty Charlow

## **Give it to the Worms: Composting**

### *Topics:*

This course explores recycling with emphasis on recycling of organic material through composting.

Students will learn about:

- What is composting
- What is compost
- How to build and maintain a compost pile
- Soil and soil organisms, the decomposers
- The cycle of life: how are all living things, people, plants, and animals, connected
- How to change waste into a resource
- How to keep planet earth healthy and clean.
- Changing a bad habit into a good habit: Recycle/Compost!
- Composting in a worm box
- Harvesting compost
- How to enrich soil
- Hands-on experience with compost through exploring a compost pile
- Worm handling

### *Grade level:*

This course is offered for Grades K-4 and beyond.

### *Indoor/outdoor:*

This course can be indoors or outdoors.

### *Timing:*

This course is offered throughout the year.

### *Course Instructors:*

Hetty Francke, Lois Ashworth

## **Insect Detectives**

### *Topics:*

This course covers the basics of defining and identifying insects.

The class will:

- Learn to identify insects
- Explore the school grounds in search of insects, spiders, and other tiny creatures
- Catch, identify, and record their finds using nets, specimen jars, and log sheets

### *Grade level:*

This course is offered for Grades 1-3.

### *Indoor/outdoor:*

This is an outdoor course.

*Timing:*

This course is offered from March through May and from mid-September to November. See the current brochures for specific dates in the current semester.

*Course Instructors:*

Sherie Stiles, Janet Elling, Letty Charlow

**Life Cycles of Butterflies**

*Topics:*

This course covers the life stages of butterflies.

The class will learn about:

- What happens in each butterfly life stage
- Butterfly structure in each life stage
- The function of each life stage
- What monarch, black swallowtails, spicebush swallowtails, and painted lady butterflies look like
- How these species of butterflies differ at each life stage
- The defenses or means of protection employed by these species at different stages in their life cycle
- How each species overwinters
- The plant family the larva (caterpillar) of each of the above species requires for its survival
- The three main body parts of an insect

*Grade level:*

This course is offered for Grades 2-3.

*Indoor/outdoor:*

This is an indoor course.

*Timing:*

This course is offered from April through May and from mid-September to late October. See the current brochures for specific dates in the current semester.

*Course Instructors:*

Ellen Hahn, Peg Baseden, Judy Hyden

**Trees in Autumn**

*Topics:*

This course is about trees and their autumn leaves.

The class will learn about:

- Trees in and around the schoolyard
- Scientific methods of observation, comparison, and classification
- How to identify tree leaves

- How tree leaves function

*Grade level:*

This course is offered for Grades K-3.

*Indoor/outdoor:*

This is an indoor course.

*Timing:*

This course is offered from late September to early November. See the current brochures for specific dates in the current semester.

*Course Instructors:*

Chuck Miller

## **Trees in Spring**

*Topics:*

This course is about leafless trees in spring, and their transformation.

The class will learn about:

- The seasonal cycle of trees
- The parts of a leafless tree twig
- Factors that prompt a tree to flower and leaf out in spring time

*Grade level:*

This course is offered for Grades K-1.

*Indoor/outdoor:*

This is an indoor course.

*Timing:*

This course is offered from March through May.

*Course Instructors:*

Chuck Miller