

Education Programs



The **Camden Children's Garden** is a special place for the young and the young at heart to explore and discover the natural world. The 4-acre, interactive Garden features several themed gardens, educational exhibits, and three exciting amusement rides.



The Garden's mission is to provide a stimulating garden environment to engage families and students in creative and imaginative play. To fulfill its mission, the Garden's Education Programs offer a wide range of opportunities for visitors of all ages.

For teachers and their students, the **Camden Children's Garden** has a variety of lessons. Our lessons are available on-site to school groups visiting the Garden, or via teleconferencing, also known as "Distance Learning".

From Pre-Kindergarten through High School, there are lessons that fulfill a variety of standards in subjects such as science, social studies, language arts, health and math. Lessons are aligned to the New Jersey Standards, and the Benchmarks for Science Literacy.



For our "Grownup" visitors, we offer "Adult Workshops." Available by reservation, the workshops cover topics such as container gardening, herbs, and decorating with nature.

Scouts and other community groups will also find several opportunities to fulfill their badges and service hours.



Table of Contents

On-Site Lessons	3
Distance Learning Lessons	3
Lesson Listings	4
Garden Festivals for Schools	10
Scouting and Other On-Site Programs	11
Family Festivals	12
Grow Lab and Adult Workshops	13
Directions to the Garden	14



School Group Rates

Student Admission (<i>includes 2 amusements</i>).....	\$6.00
School Festivals & Scout Programs.....	\$8.00
<i>(includes special activities & 2 amusements)</i>	
Accompanying teachers - 1 per 5 students.....	Free
Additional Adults.....	\$5.50
Regular Adult* Admission.....	\$6.00
Regular Child Admission.....	\$5.00
Tokens for Amusements.....	\$1.50
<i>(Carousel, Train and Spring Butterfly)</i>	<i>(Or 5 tokens for \$6.00)</i>

**Family Memberships also available*



On-Site Lessons

On-Site lessons are available to groups visiting the Garden. Teachers, Scout Leaders and Camp Leaders can enhance their students' field trip experience by requesting one of our hands-on lessons (see pages 4-9). Lessons are designed for students Pre-K to 6th grade. Reservations are required for lessons.

Lesson fees* are:

\$55.00 for Pre-K-2nd grade

(30 minutes per lesson)

\$70.00 for 3rd-6th

(45 minutes per lesson)

**Lesson fees do not include admission, parking or lunch tent fee.*



Distance Learning Lessons

Our Distance Learning (DL) lessons are interactive, inquiry-based classes where students can ask questions directly of the Garden's Educator. DL lessons are designed for students in grades pre-K to 12th, and are a great addition to any curriculum. Topics range from butterflies, seeds, tropical rainforests and water pollution to DNA Typing and Mendel's Peas (see pages 4-9). Teacher In-Services are also available.

DL lessons are provided using the technology of video-conferencing equipment to schools with reciprocal equipment.

Lesson fees are:

\$60.00 for Pre-K-2nd grade *(30 minutes per lesson)*

\$75.00 for 3rd-6th *(45 minutes per lesson)*

\$80.00 for 7th-12th *(45 minutes per lesson)*



Garden & Distance Learning Lessons

Grades K-2

Hungry, Hungry Caterpillar: Trace the development of a butterfly from an egg to an adult. We will read and act out parts from Eric Carle's "The Very Hungry Caterpillar."



NJS: 3.1, 3.3, 3.4, 5.1, 5.5, 5.10.
Benchmarks: 1B, 1C, 2A, 4F, 5A, 5B, 5C, 5D, 5E, 5F, 11C, 12A.

Tree Homes: Some scientists claim that a tree can be home to 500 creatures. What parts of a tree are used by these organisms and how are they used?



NJS: 5.1, 5.5, 5.8, 5.10.
Benchmarks: 1B, 5A, 5C, 5D, 5E, 11C.

Are You My Mother? Explore a wide variety of seeds. Touch and sort the seeds by color, size, and shape. Match a seed to the plant it produces.



NJS: 5.1, 5.3, 5.5, 5.6, 5.10, 6.6.
Benchmarks: 1B, 2A, 4D, 4E, 5A, 5B, 5C, 5D, 5E, 5F, 8A, 9C, 11C, 11D, 12A, 12D.

Recipe for Soil: What is going on beneath your feet? Take a close-up look at soil, its many components and the organisms that live in it.



NJS: 5.1, 5.5, 5.6, 5.8, 5.10.
Benchmarks: 1B, 4C, 4D, 5C, 5D, 5E, 11A, 11C.

Grades 3-4

Butterfly Habits: What makes a butterfly an insect? How do butterflies protect them-selves? Learn about the interesting life cycle of butterflies and the ways evolution has helped them protect themselves from becoming someone else's lunch.



NJS: 5.1, 5.5, 5.10, 6.6.
Benchmarks: 1B, 1C, 4F, 5A, 5B, 5C, 5D, 5E, 5F, 11C, 12A.

Tree Detective: What is a tree? Did you know trees have names? How do scientists classify trees? We will look at the various characteristics that help identify and classify a tree.



NJS: 5.1, 5.3, 5.5.
Benchmarks: 1B, 3A, 5A, 5B, 5D, 5E, 5F, 11D.

Have Seed, Will Travel: Check out how and why seeds travel from their parents. Some plants hitchhike, while some blow in the wind. Can you guess which seeds float? For our on-site audience, plant a seed in an "eco-pot", and then take it home.



NJS: 5.1, 5.5, 5.10.
Benchmarks: 1B, 4B, 4G, 5A, 5B, 5D, 5E, 5F, 11C, 11D.

Let it Rot! Take a look at recycling for your garden. Don't waste all of your treasures by tossing them in the garbage; create a mini compost heap. Learn which things to add and which to avoid in a healthy compost pile, and which critters can help.



NJS: 5.1, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6, 5.8, 5.10, 6.6.
Benchmarks: 4C, 4D, 5D, 5E, 11A, 11C, 12C.

Lessons Continued

Grades 5-6

Soil Detectives. It's a dirty job, but someone's got to do it! Get out those test tubes and soil samplers. Check the pH and use a thermometer to determine soil temperature. Identify and classify different types of soil.



NJS: 5.1, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6, 5.8, 5.10.
Benchmarks: 1B, 3A, 4C, 5D, 12A, 12C.

Germination. Have you ever looked inside a seed? Compare and contrast different types of seeds by their structure, and learn the function of each part. Explore the plant life cycle.



NJS: 5.1, 5.5, 5.10.
Benchmarks: 5A, 5B, 5D, 5E, 5F, 11A.

Bouquet for Butterflies. Why are some flowers very special for butterflies while other flowers have very few visitors? Take a closer look at pollination and which critter pollinates what flower. Some flowers have different shapes to welcome some pollinators while shutting out the competition.



NJS: 5.1, 5.3, 5.5, 5.10.
Benchmarks: 1B, 1C, 5A, 5B, 5D, 5E, 5F, 11C.

Photosynthesis. Discover the source of life on the planet and learn how trees can transform this vital energy from the sun into food. What parts of a tree play a role in doing this?



NJS: 5.1, 5.3, 5.5, 5.6, 5.7, 5.10.
Benchmarks: 1B, 1C, 2A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, 5A, 5C, 5E, 8C.

Grades 7-12

DNA Typing. How can the police discover which suspect is guilty of the crime committed with just a sample of saliva? Learn about DNA and how it can be used in forensic science.



NJS: 5.1, 5.2, 5.4, 5.5.
Benchmarks: 1A, 1B, 1C, 2B, 3A, 3B, 3C, 4D, 5A, 5B, 5C, 5E, 5F, 6A, 8F, 10H, 11C.

Genetics: Mendel's Peas. Discover dominant and recessive traits among yourselves, then study peas. Figure it all out on a Punnett Square.



NJS: 4.4, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5.
Benchmarks: 1A, 1B, 1C, 2A, 2B, 2C, 5A, 5B, 5F, 10H, 11B, 11C, 12B.

Tropical Rainforests: Issues in Conservation.

If saving rainforests is so popular, why are we still losing so much rainforest today? Learn about some of the issues that make this popular goal so difficult to achieve, and what you can do to help the cause.



NJS: 5.5, 5.8, 5.10, 6.2, 6.5, 6.6,
Benchmarks: 3A, 4D, 5A, 5D, 5E, 5F, 8B, 8C, 11A, 11C.



The following classes are available for various grade levels. Suggested grade levels are in parentheses.

A Leaf of a Different Color. Why do leaves change color in the fall?

Follow a leaf from beneath the bud in winter to a mulch pile the following fall.



NJS: 5.1, 5.5, 5.6, 5.10.
Benchmarks: 1B, 3A, 4D, 5A, 5C, 5D, 5E.(3rd-4th)

Air Pollution: Inside my House. When we think of air pollution, we usually think of the air outside our homes, but experts claim that indoor air pollution can be 5 times worse than outdoor air pollution. Explore the many sources of indoor air pollution, the health consequences, and what we can do about the problem.



NJS: 2.1, 2.2, 5.1, 5.10, 6.2,
Benchmarks: 3A, 3B, 3C, 5E, 6C, 6D, 6E, 6F, 7D, 8B.(3rd-6th)

Ben Franklin: Scientist and Innovator. Benjamin Franklin was a man who wore many hats: printer, ambassador, writer, patriot. But one title he relished was scientist. Learn about some of his wonderful discoveries, and how he used them for the betterment of society.



NJS: 5.1, 5.2, 5.4, 5.6, 5.7, 6.2, 6.4,
Benchmarks: 1A,1B, 1C, 2B, 3A, 3B, 3C, 4C, 4F, 6D, 11B,12A.(3rd-6th)

Ecosystems and Biomes. Biodiversity affects our lives every day. What is biodiversity and why is it important to us?



NJS: 5.2, 5.5, 5.8, 5.10, 6.1, 6.2.
Benchmarks: 1A, 1C, 3A, 3C, 4B, 4C, 5A, 5D, 5E, 5F, 7G, 9C, 9F, 11A, 11D.(3rd-6th)

Birds of a Feather. Birds come in all shapes and sizes. Learn how different species of birds have evolved to survive in the environments in which they are found.



NJS: 5.1, 5.5,5.10.
Benchmarks: 1B, 1C, 5A, 5B, 5C, 5D, 5E, 5F, 9C, 11D, 12A, 12D.(3rd-6th)

Carnivorous Plants. Did you know that some plants eat insects? Learn where these plants live and why they need the extra nutrition.



NJS: 5.1, 5.5, 5.10.
Benchmarks: 1B, 3B, 3C, 4C, 5A, 5D, 5E, 5F, 11D.(3rd-6th)

Lessons Continued



Chocolate and Vanilla. Ever wonder where these fabulous flavors come from? Explore the intriguing food web and the processes that bring two of the most delectable food products to our homes.



NJS: 5.5, 5.8, 5.10, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.5, 6.6
Benchmarks: 3A, 4B, 5A, 5D, 5E, 5F, 7G, 11A, 11C.(3rd-6th)

Grasses for the Masses. Can you name four grasses that we eat? Learn about the importance of grains to all cultures around the world.



NJS: 5.1, 5.2, 5.4, 5.5, 5.10, 6.1, 6.2, 6.6.
Benchmarks: 1C, 3A, 3B, 3C, 4C, 4D, 5A, 5B, 5D, 5E, 6A, 7E, 7G, 8A.(3rd-6th)

Great Migrations: It's a Small World. Many species of animals travel thousands of miles a year to and from faraway lands as part of a ritual that has gone on for millennia. Learn the importance of protecting our one Earth, and how animals know no borders.



NJS: 5.4, 5.5, 5.8, 5.10, 6.2, 6.6.
Benchmarks: 5D, 4G, 5F, 11A.(3rd-6th)

Learning from the Lorax. Learn why it is important to conserve natural resources. We will read Dr. Seuss's "The Lorax" and discuss the effects of deforestation.



NJS: 3.1, 3.3, 3.4, 5.1, 5.4, 5.5, 5.8, 5.10, 6.1, 6.2.
Benchmarks: 3A, 3C, 4C, 5A, 5D, 5E, 7G.(3rd-6th)

Naturally Nutritious. What happens to body chemistry on an unbalanced diet? Learn why an apple a day keeps the doctor away.



NJS: 2.1, 2.2, 2.6, 5.1, 5.5.
Benchmarks: 2A, 1B, 1C, 5C, 5E, 6C, 6E, 7D, 9C, 11A.(3rd-6th)

Tropical Rainforests. Discover the wonders of the tropical rainforests. Learn why they are so important to all our lives.



NJS: 5.5, 5.5, 5.8, 5.10, 6.1, 6.2, 6.5, 6.6.
Benchmarks: 3A, 4B, 5A, 5D, 5E, 5F, 7G, 8B, 8C, 11A, 11C.(4th-8th)

Under the Sea. Our planet is covered with water, most of it found in our vast oceans. Though we sometimes think of the ocean as one big body of water, it really is a diverse environment. Meet some of the critters that live under the sea, and the habitats they live in.



NJS: 5.1, 5.2, 5.5, 5.6, 5.8, 5.10, 6.6.
Benchmarks: 1B, 1C, 3A, 4B, 4C, 5A, 5C, 5D, 5E, 5F, 11A, 11C.(K-6th)

Weird Weather. Weather affects our everyday lives, even if we do not think about it every day. Learn about atmospheric changes that cause the weather we see and feel.



NJS: 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.6, 5.7, 5.8, 5.9, 5.10, 6.1, 6.6.
Benchmarks: 1B, 1C, 2A, 2C, 3A, 4A, 4B, 4E, 5C, 5D, 5E, 6A, 11C, 12A.(3rd-8th)



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Lessons Continued

WETlands. Explore the wetlands around the Delaware River through story and pictures. Discuss the many reasons wetlands are important.



NJS: 5.3, 5.5, 5.7, 5.8, 5.10, 6.1, 6.2, 6.6.
Benchmarks: 3A, 4B, 5D, 5E, 11A.(3rd-8th)

Where's the Water? Have you ever wondered where the snow goes when it melts from the top of a mountain in the spring? Follow a water molecule on an interesting journey that can last the life span of the Earth.



NJS: 5.1, 5.5, 5.6, 5.7, 5.8, 5.10, 6.1, 6.2, 6.6.
Benchmarks: 1C, 3A, 4B, 4C, 4G, 8A, 8C, 12A.(4th-8th)

Yummy Plant Parts. Did you know that a carrot is a root and a potato is a tuber? Learn what part of a plant your favorite vegetables come from.



NJS: 2.1, 5.1, 5.5, 5.6, 5.10.
Benchmarks: 1B, 4E, 5A, 5C, 5D, 5E, 5F, 6E, 8A, 11C, 12D.(3rd-6th)



Garden Festivals for Schools

“Garden Festivals for Schools” are an excellent way for students to explore a variety of hands-on activities while having some fun! Developed specifically for 3rd to 6th grade students, the festivals are centered on four main themes:

Spring is Here! Spring is the start of planting season. Learn how to compost, the importance of water, how to identify plants, what seeds need to grow, and how to start a garden at home.

Earth and Arbor Day: Save the Earth!

Join us while we learn to make recycled paper, explore water pollution, plant a tree to take home, and make some wacky planters from reusable materials.



Butterflies, Birds and Cinco de Mayo:

Take flight with the Monarchs while learning about butterfly migration, explore plants that attract butterflies and birds to your garden (and take a plant home with you!), identify birds by their beaks, and learn a little Spanish in our Cinco de Mayo activity.

Fit and Fun: Having a healthy lifestyle doesn't have to be boring. Learn some easy ways to add exercise to your day, explore the new USDA Food Pyramid, find out what rainbows have to do with eating, and start your own healthy garden by planting a tomato to take home.

The activities are all aligned to the New Jersey Department of Education Core Curriculum Content Standards, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science Benchmarks for Science Literacy.

Please call for dates. Reservations are required, and space is limited. Fees are \$8 per student, which includes admission, four hands-on activities, a student passport and two tokens for our amusements. Admission is free for one teacher per 5 students. Bus parking and lunch tent fee are additional.



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Scouting and Other Educational Programs

Girl Scouts

Our programs are designed to help the Daisy to Junior Girl Scouts achieve their petals, try-its, badges, journey detours, and interest projects. Also, for Cadettes and Seniors, we have various opportunities to help them complete their service hours and career requirements.

Please call the Garden at 856-365-8733 for dates, or check the Camden County Girl Scout website's calendar.



Girl Scouts explore the uses of plants by making their own chamomile tea bag.

Boy Scouts

Tiger, Webelos, and Boy Scouts can work towards their various pins and badges by participating in our programs. Also, the Garden is an ideal place to work towards service projects.

Homeschools

The Camden Children's Garden is presently working on a series designed for Homeschool participants. Please call for dates.

Family Festivals Weekend Series

The “2nd & 4th Saturday and Sunday Series”
runs from April to November.

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|------------------|--|
| April | Dino Day
Earth and Arbor Day |
| May | Butterflies, Birds, & Cinco de Mayo
Fit & Fun Festival |
| June | StrawBEARy Surprise & Nature in Art Day
Festival de Aibonito, Puerto Rico |
| July | BlueBEARy Blast & Celebrate NJ Day
Storybook Celebration |
| August | Peach Party
Chocolate and Vanilla Flavor Festival |
| September | Hefty Harvest & Scary Scarecrows
Faeries & Wizards Festival |
| October | Mum Madness & Pumpkin Parade
Goblins in the Garden |
| November | Train Festival
Premier of the Holiday Festival of Lights & Santa
arrival in the afternoon! |
| December | Holiday Festival of Lights (Friday & Saturday Evenings) |



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Adult Workshops

Fun Series for Adults! The Camden Children's Garden is a place not only for the young, but also for the young at heart. Come outside and learn about gardening and other horticultural activities. This series is held at the Garden one Wednesday each month (usually the 3rd Wednesday of the month - please call or check our website for specific dates!) from April to September. Workshops are from 10:00 am to 11:30 am. Reservations and pre-payment are required.

Grow Lab



Grow Lab teaches elementary school children science and math skills through horticulture. The lab is a mini-indoor greenhouse developed by the National Gardening Association. An important part of the program is a K-8th grade curriculum and activities guide developed by the National Science Foundation. This curriculum closely resembles the New Jersey Core Curriculum Standards for science in grades 1-4. The Grow-Lab program serves thousands of school children per year in the City of Camden.

The Camden City Garden Club staff provides assistance to Grow-Lab teachers through periodic classroom visitations and teacher workshops. One of the favorite activities is the salad party. Students grow the salad ingredients and plan the party.

The Camden City Garden Club enhanced its Grow Lab program in 2005 by adding two new and important components: nutrition education and ecological concepts. Our nutrition lessons focus on making better food choices and the revised food pyramid. Our ecology lessons examine soil, water and air pollution and habitat loss from the perspective: What can I do about it?

The Grow Lab program is funded through grants and donations. If you would like to learn more about this program, please contact our development coordinator at 856.365.8733.



Directions to the Garden

3 Riverside Drive, Camden, NJ 08103

From New Jersey:

From the New Jersey Turnpike/Interstate 295

Traveling Southbound – Take Exit 4 of the NJ TP to Route 73 North to I-295 South. Stay on I-295 south for approximately 8 miles until road splits. Stay on the left towards Philadelphia for Exit 26. (Sign says I-76 to I-676 Camden/Philadelphia). Follow ramp about 1 mile to another split in road. Stay right for 676 North/Ben Franklin Bridge/Camden. Go approximately 2 miles to Exit 5A (Mickle/Martin Luther King Blvd.) and follow signs to the Waterfront.

Traveling Northbound – Take Exit 3 of the NJ TP to Route 168 North (Black Horse Pike). Travel about 1 mile to I-295 South to Exit 26 (left lane). (Sign says I-76 to I-676 Camden/Philadelphia). Follow ramp about 1 mile to another split in road. Stay right for I-676 North/Ben Franklin Bridge/Camden. Go approximately 2 miles to Exit 5A (Mickle/Martin Luther King Blvd.) and follow signs to the Waterfront.

From Garden State Parkway – From the South, take GSP North to the Atlantic City Expressway and Route 42 North. Stay right for I-676 North/Ben Franklin Bridge/Camden to Exit 5A (Mickle/Martin Luther King Blvd.) and follow signs to the Waterfront.

From Central NJ - Take GSP to I-195 West. Take I-195 West to the NJ TP going South. Then follow directions listed at the top of this page. From the North, take GSP to NJ TP/I-295 going southbound. Then follow directions listed at the top of this page.

From Atlantic City Expressway – Follow AC Expressway North to Route 42 North. Stay right for I-676 North/Ben Franklin Bridge/Camden to Exit 5A (Mickle/Martin Luther King Blvd.) and follow signs to the Waterfront.

From Pennsylvania:

From I-95 (Southbound) – Follow toward Philadelphia and take exit 22 (sign says Historic Philadelphia/Independence/Interstate 676 East). Follow signs for I-676 East to Ben Franklin Bridge toll plaza (stay to the right). Once over bridge, take I-676 South to exit 5A. Take exit 5A (Mickle/Martin Luther King Blvd.) and follow signs to the Waterfront.

From I-95 (Northbound) – Follow toward Philadelphia and take exit 19 (sign says Walt Whitman Bridge/Packard Ave). Follow signs for the Walt Whitman Bridge. While crossing the bridge, stay in right lane and take Exit 354 for I-676 North. The next exit (I-676 North) comes up quickly in left lane. Take exit and merge onto I-676 North. Take exit 5A (Mickle/Martin Luther King Blvd.) and follow signs to the Waterfront.

From Delaware or Chester County – Take the Commodore Barry Bridge to I-295 North. Follow signs for I-676 North/Camden/Ben Franklin Bridge. Take I-676 to exit 5A (Mickle/Martin Luther King Blvd.) and follow signs to the Waterfront.

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Come outside and play . . .

and learn . . . at the Camden Children's Garden!



Field Trips

Garden Lessons

Distance Learning Lessons

Garden Festivals for Schools

Scouting Activities

Family Festivals

Adult Workshops

Grow Lab

