**Kids Garden Club 2018**

**Week 1: Weeding and planting**

- This is a big job, so no craft planned. Will go over garden rules, tour garden and barn. Talk about what the kids want to get out of the group; expectations.

- Go over daily gardening tasks (weeding, picking suckers, looking for bugs, watering, and picking fruit when ready)

- Explain about earning gardening buttons

- Talk about their garden journals (give time each day to write, draw in it). Make these journals once garden is done.

- Read poem from “When Green becomes Tomatoes” to start every session.
Week 2: Worms and other beasties

BOOKS:
“Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt” by Kate Messner
“Small Wonders. Jean-Henri Fabre & his World of Insects” by Matthew Clark Smith
“When Green Becomes Tomatoes” by Julie Morstad
“Worm and Farmer Maguire” by Jeff Dinardo

MAKE:
* Garden markers
* Journals

BRING:
* Pencil crayons, pencils, pens
* Sharpies
* Paint sticks
* Garden Journals
* Bug facts

-Start by reading a book.

-Do garden tasks
  - weeding
  - bug check
  - watering!

-Talk about bugs in the garden. Can they name any harmful bugs? Beneficial bugs?
-what about under the ground? Is it important what is happening down there?

-Explore our garden and others (carefully) for bugs. We can dig and see if we have any juicy worms and identify all the parts?

-Kids can have time to write and draw about what we found today in their journals. How are the plants doing? What has the weather been like?

BADGE EARNED: “The Biologist”
Kids Garden Club 2018

Week 3: Birds

BOOKS:
“Look-Up! Bird-watching in your own backyard” by Annette LeBlanc Cate
“Young Birder’s Guide” by Bill Thompson
“Mama built a little nest” by Jennifer Ward

MAKE:
* Binoculars
* Decorate one bird house for the garden

BRING:
* Wooden bird house
* Sharpies
* Toilet paper rolls
* Stapler
* Stickers
* Yarn

- Start by reading a book.

- Do garden tasks
  - weeding
  - picking suckers
  - bug check
  - watering!

- Talk about why birds are good for the garden. Can they be harmful?

- Create and decorate binoculars.

- Look at bird book and see if we can spot any birds. We could go for a walk along the river to see what we can see.

- If there is time, decorate and hang a bird house.

- Give kids time to write or draw in their journals (ie. Birds we saw)

BADGE EARNED: “The Bird Watcher”
Week 4: **BEES**

**BOOKS:**
“*The honeybee*” by Kirsten Hall
“*These Bees Count!*” by Alison Formento
“*Big City Bees*” by Maggie De Vries
“*BEES: a honeyed history*” by Piotr Socha

**MAKE:**
*BEE Hotel

**BRING:**
*small pots
*small branch pcs (collect there)
*newspaper
*tape
*wireless drill

- Start by reading a book.

**SPECIAL GUEST:** Gail Anderson, From Lazy J Ranch to talk to kids about beekeeping.
-Gail will be talking to us about beekeeping, what we should plant in our garden to help the bee population and hopefully allowing the kids to try on some beekeeping attire!

- Do garden tasks
  - weeding
  - bug check
  - picking suckers
  - watering!
  - harvest?

- Look at the big Bee book with the kids
- Build Bee hotels

- Give kids time to write or draw in their (ie. Bees, beekeeping tools)

**BADGE EARNED:** “The Beekeeper”
Kids Garden Club 2018

Week 5: Trees

BOOKS:
“Canada’s Trees” by Elizabeth MacLeod
“Whose Trees are these” by Erna Michalow
“Deep Roots” by Nikki Tate
“The Lorax” by Dr. Seuss
“Tree” by Britta Teckentrup
“Little Tree” by Loren Long
“The Last Tree” by Ingrid Chabbert
“I wonder why...Trees have leaves” by Reader’s Digest

MAKE:
*Identify trees in the park
*Collect interesting leaves (using leaf hunt sheets)
*Leaf pounding prints

BRING:
*rubber mallet
*white cloth pieces
*clothes pegs

-Start by doing garden tasks
  -weeding
  -bug check
  -sucker picking
  -other observations
  -watering!

-Talk about why trees are important to the garden
-Go on a walk and try to identify trees in the park
-Give kids the leaf hunt cards and 4 clothes pegs
-Allow kids to go off and collect any interesting leaves
-do the leaf pounding craft

BADGE EARNED: “The Arborist”
Kids Garden Club 2018

Week 6: Beyond the garden/Biomimicry

BOOKS:
“Gorilla Gardener: How to help nature take over the world.” by John Seven
“Under your nose; a book about nature’s gifts.” By Judith McMurray
“Nature got there first; inventions inspired by nature.” By Phil Gates
“The Golden Glow” by Benjamin Flouw
“Shapes all around.” By Kate Riggs
“Biomimicry” by Dora Lee

MAKE/DO:
*Talk about Biomimicry (book included and sheet attached)
*Go on a nature walk and scavenger hunt. Have kids pay attention to the form of things they see. Can they find anything in nature that mimics something man-made. Remind them NOT to pick anything, just look and show!

- Start by reading the book on Biomimicry, and any of the others if they would like.
- Do garden tasks
  - weeding
  - bug check
  - sucker picking
  - watering!
  - harvest if anything is ready
- Give each child a scavenger hunt list to bring on your walk. They may want to bring their journals as well.
- As a group go for a walk along the trail and see if you can spot everything on the list.
- It might be nice to stop at some point to allow the kids to write in their journals about and draw what they see and anything neat that they have found.
- You can either bring the food that was harvested and eat it then or wait until you get back to enjoy it (if there is anything to pick...)

BADGE EARNED: “The Explorer”
Kids Garden Club 2018

Week 7: Field Trip to Bruce Botanical Food Garden

- Meet at the gardens at 10am.
- Go on a walk-through, allowing kids to examine, pick and talk about what they see.
- Play with the human clock.
- Have a picnic outside of the park.

BADGE EARNED: “The Researcher”
**Kids Garden Club 2018**

**Week 8: Harvest and clean up**

**BOOKS:**
“My Garden” by Kevin Henkes
“A green green garden” by Mercer Mayer
“The Imaginary Garden” by Andrew Larsen
“The Runaway Garden” by Jeffrey Schatzer
“How to grow Happiness” by Kelly DiPucchio

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**MAKE/DO:**

*Make paint brushes from leaves, etc.*
*decorate paper with paint and brushes.*

**BRING:**
*construction paper*  
*paint*  
*elastic bands*  
*addresses*  
*envelopes*

- *make Thank you cards*

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- Start by reading a book.
- collect twigs and different types of leaves to make paint brushes with.
- each child can construct their own unique brush.
- As a group they can decorate the front of each card
- Allow paper to dry while...

- Do garden tasks
  - harvest everything
  - pull out all plants
  - put everything in the compost
  - clean up site

- Make Thank-you cards for Irv; Ingrid and Bruce Botanical Food Garden staff; Gail @ Lazy J;
  - Address each card and mail

**BADGE EARNED:** “Master Gardener!”