



Year-Round Programs

Youth and Family Programs at the Chicago Botanic Garden focus on encouraging a love of nature with a diverse curriculum designed for youth up to 15 years old. The Garden's fun and enriching programs support the healthy development of children, encourage multigenerational interaction in families, and increase the understanding and appreciation of the natural world. The Garden's programs meet a critical need for high quality experiences with nature at an early age and throughout childhood, provide a range of access to diverse audiences, and set a benchmark for public gardens internationally.

These programs allow children, parents, and grandparents to experience all the Garden has to offer in a fun, kid-centered way through creative offerings that include family classes, self-guided tours, drop-in activities, year-round camps, and so much more.



The Setting

The Chicago Botanic Garden is a vibrant living and growing museum set on 385 acres, including 2.6 million plants, 27 gardens, and four natural areas. The centerpiece of the Garden's educational programs is the Learning Center, a 26,700-square-foot facility that includes indoor and outdoor classrooms, the Boeing Nature Laboratory, the ITW Kitchen, and a Nature Play Garden. The entire Garden is a classroom, with programs that provide a nurturing and supportive space, and a place to come learn and create, and share memories, adventures, and fun.

The Attendees

Youth and Family Programs at the Chicago Botanic Garden serve 90,000 participants annually. One-third of those served are parents and caregivers, while two-thirds are children. Fifty percent of children served in youth programs are early childhood (birth through age 8) participants. The Garden serves approximately 30,000 children annually for drop-in activities at the Nature Play Garden.



The Opportunity

These programs provide a unique opportunity for sponsors to engage with families through advance event promotion across the Garden's website and social media channels, and on-site via program collateral, signage, and activations.

Presenting sponsor of Youth and Family Programs: \$100,000

Major sponsor of Youth and Family Programs: \$50,000

Supporting sponsor of Youth and Family select programs: \$10,000 – \$25,000

Camp CBG sponsor: \$15,000

On-site activation: \$5,000

Youth and Family program activities include the following:

Camp CBG

Regularly sold out months in advance, Camp CBG is one of the most popular camps in the Chicago region. Kids ages 2 to 15 spend their summers learning and discovering across the Garden's beautiful campus. Class topics include art, gardening, cooking, insects, and many different science areas—chemistry, physics, ecology, and botany.

Estimated attendance: 1,800

Nature Preschool

A unique educational experience for 3- to 5-year-olds, Nature Preschool features an emergent curriculum focusing on daily exploration and discovery in nature. Children spend at least half their time playing and learning outdoors, two to four days a week during the school year.

Estimated attendance: 70

Family Programs

The Garden offers a large variety of classes for families to explore the Garden and enjoy nature together. Programs include Books and Cooks, Campouts, Nature Nights, Little Diggers, and Weekend Family Classes.

Estimated attendance: 2,000

Scout Programs

Campouts, badge programs, and seasonal workshops provide a variety of fun opportunities for local Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, and other youth groups. Scouts use the Garden setting, participating in activities that help them advance through scouting levels.

Estimated attendance: 1,300

Bingo

This colorful scavenger hunt game encourages kids to use all of their senses as they search for landmarks, plants, and animals while the whole family meanders through the Garden.

Estimated attendance: 36,000

Drop-in Activities

Daily from June to August, families can visit the Nature Play Garden to roll down the hills, splash in the runnel, and hide in the log tunnels. At these facilitated multisensory activities, children and caregivers explore, build forts, engage in creative play with natural materials, and even construct cork boats to float down the runnel.

Estimated attendance: 30,000 annually, up to 400 daily



CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN

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One of the treasures of the Forest Preserves of Cook County