

Cape Fear Botanical Garden summer camps instill a love for nature with Garden explorations, hands-on science experiments, and nature art projects. The Garden has camps for children and teens ages 4-15.

Garden members may register early starting on March 4th and registration opens to the public on March 11th.

Sprouts Camps (Ages 4-6)

Nature's Treasures

May 28th-31st

9 am – 12 pm

Young adventurers will uncover the wonders of nature! Join us as we delve into the world of rocks, flowers, feathers, and beyond! Get creative with decorating your own treasure box and kick start your very own nature collection!

Ready, Set Science!

July 29th - August 1st

2 pm – 5 pm

Prepare for an exhilarating journey into the world of science with our four-day camp designed to ignite curiosity and exploration in our youngest participants. Engage in captivating experiments as we blow giant bubbles, nurture seeds to growth, explore the power of magnets, and even master the art of levitating a ball!



Explorers Camps (Ages 5-8)

Curious Creatures

June 10th-14th

8:30 am – 12:30pm

Embark on a captivating exploration of the wildlife thriving within the Garden. Participants will explore fur, feathers, and scales, interact with live reptiles, participate in pond-side fishing adventures, construct bug jars, and go on thrilling critter hunts.

S.T.E.M. Lab

June 17th-21st

8:30 am – 12:30 pm

Immerse yourself in hands-on learning at this camp through interactive experiments, construction challenges, and outdoor expeditions. Dive into the world of science as we craft mini-lava lamps, design bridges and towers, explore the wonders of magnets, and unravel the mysteries of nature within the Garden.

I Want to Be A...

July 22nd-26th

8:30 am – 12:30 pm

Imagine your child experiencing a day in the shoes of an astronaut, a veterinarian, a zookeeper or a botanist. Explore fascinating career paths through engaging hands-on activities and insightful guest speakers. Encounter live education animals, craft your very own stethoscopes, unleash your creativity in designing a zoo, and launch miniature rockets into the skies.

Explorers Camps cont. next page

Above and Below

August 19th-23rd

8:30 am - 12:30 pm

Embark on an adventure that takes you soaring above the clouds and plunging into the depths of the deepest caves! Campers will discover the wonders of both high and low realms through exciting activities such as engineering parachutes, cultivating crystals, experimenting with gooey worms, and exploring the science of balloons.

Creators Camps (Ages 6-10)

Nature's Muse

July 8th - 12th

8:30 am - 12:30 pm

Nature serves as the ultimate muse! Campers will delve into a myriad of art projects inspired by renowned artists and their profound connections to the natural realm. Craft nature object art reminiscent of Goldsworthy's work, capture the essence of impressionism with finger-painted scenes à la Monet, and construct vibrant collages inspired by the iconic paintings of Georgia O'Keeffe.

Wild Craft

August 5th - 9th

8:30 am - 12:30 pm

Create wild art with natural materials like leaves, sticks, and stones collected right from the Garden. Projects will include leaf mobiles, clay impressions, painted stones, and more! Each day will include adventures out into the garden, woodland trails and spending time crafting in the classroom.



Adventurers Camps (Ages 8-12)

Seeds of Civilization

June 17th - 21st

1:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Get ready for an adventure through time with plants! Did you know that plants have been shaping history for thousands of years? From providing food and fabrics to creating medicines and even supporting military tanks with their tires, we journey back in time and explore into the fascinating world of plants. Campers will get to create their own papyrus hieroglyphics, craft healing herb sachets, weave beautiful baskets, and uncover incredible inventions made from plants.

Adventurers Camps cont. next page

Fungi Discoveries

July 15th - 19th

8:30 am - 12:30 pm

Embark on an extraordinary journey into the enchanting realm of fungi! Often mistaken for plants, these fascinating organisms are actually more closely related to us humans. Fungi play a vital role in supporting life on Earth, growing to enormous sizes, emitting mesmerizing glows in the dark, and even aiding in communication among trees.

In this captivating camp, prepare to dive deep into the world of fungi as we explore their remarkable characteristics. Campers will create spore prints, cultivate their own fungi specimens, and unveil the astonishing diversity of mushrooms. Uncover the secrets of these mysterious organisms in a camp like no other!



Fantastic Flora

July 22nd - 26th

1:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Prepare for a magical journey as we uncover some of the most enchanting plants from around the globe! From the stunning and mysterious lotus flower to the eerie and fascinating parasitic ghost plant, campers will explore the wonders of nature like never before.

Activities will be packed with fun and excitement as we plant our very own mythical garden, concoct fizzing potions that bubble and brew, experiment with the secrets of herbology, and let our creativity soar as we invent our very own fantasy plants!

This camp is filled with imagination, discovery, and endless possibilities!

Culinary Connections Camps (Ages 9-13)

Seed to Table

July 8th - 12th

1:30 pm - 5:30 pm

New Camp for 2024



Campers will go on a delicious journey to uncover the secrets of how food grows, from tiny seeds and delicate flowers to the vital role of pollinators and sprawling farm fields. Tantalize your taste buds each day as campers cook and prepare exciting new dishes!

Wait...that's not all – we'll also roll up our sleeves and get our hands dirty as we grow and harvest food straight from the earth. Together, we'll compile our culinary adventures into a recipe book to take home. Plus, you'll hone your kitchen skills in the basics of culinary magic: measuring, chopping, seasoning, and sautéing.

Discover the joy of food from seed to plate in a mouthwatering fun experience you won't forget!

Culinary Connections Camps cont. next page

Global Tastes

July 29th - August 2nd

8:30 am - 12:30 pm

New Camp for 2024

Calling all young chefs for a culinary journey around the globe! Let's whip up delicious recipes from various countries while exploring the rich tapestry of their geography, culture, and customs.

Each day brings a new adventure as we journey to a different corner of the world. From experiencing exotic dishes to crafting souvenirs inspired by diverse cultures, we'll immerse ourselves in the sights, sounds, and flavors of far-off lands.

The fun doesn't stop here! We'll also share stories, games, and traditions from different cultures, unlocking the mysteries of some of the most incredible places on Earth. Join us for an amazing exploration filled with flavors, friendships, and fantastic discoveries!

Summer Naturalist Camps (Ages 11-15)

Naturalist Adventure

July 1st - 3rd

9 am - 3 pm

There will be three days packed with excitement and discovery at our multi-faceted camp! We've curated diverse activities that blend science, art, nature, and adventure for an unforgettable experience.



Campers will unleash their creativity with nature-inspired art projects, come face-to-face with live reptiles for an up-close encounter, unlock the hidden treasures of geodes as we break them open, and embark on a scenic hike along the picturesque Cape Fear River Trail.

From experimenting with science to being immersed in the beauty of nature, each day will be filled with new experiences and opportunities for learning and fun. Let's embark together on this thrilling three-day adventure!

Day Camp: (Ages 11-15)

Inventors Workshop

August 13th

9 am - 3 pm

Hey there, young innovators! Are you ready to dive into the world of eco-friendly inventions? Prepare to roll up your sleeves and unleash your creativity! Explore the realm of environmental protection by crafting a functional water filter, dreaming up a hurricane-resistant abode, and crafting your very own mini-solar car. Let's turn those imaginative gears and make a positive impact together!



Single Day Camps for Various Ages

Start on an adventure with Cape Fear Botanical Garden's Single Day Camps, tailored for various age ranges! We're confident you'll discover multiple day camps that ignite your camper's curiosity and unleash their creativity. From engaging challenges to inspiring activities, our camps are designed to cultivate a love for nature, imagination and spark innovation.

Let the exploration begin!

Day Camps (Ages 5-8)

Scales and Slime

June 3rd

9 am – 3 pm

A day filled with the fascinating world of reptiles and amphibians at Cape Fear Botanical Garden! This is an adventure where you'll encounter slithering snakes, slimy salamanders, hopping frogs, and bumpy toads. Our camp is packed with exciting activities; meet live animals up close, concoct your own slime creations, feel the texture of snake skin and turtle shells, and explore the Garden in search of these incredible creatures. It's a day of exploration and discovery you won't want to miss!



Color Explosion

July 5th

9 am – 3 pm

Join us for a vibrant adventure as we explore the colors of the rainbow at Cape Fear Botanical Garden's one-day camp! Dive into a world of colorful fun as we craft our own rainbows, use prisms to create dazzling spectrums, venture into nature to discover its vivid hues, and experiment with the magical art of color mixing. Let your creativity soar as we journey through a kaleidoscope of hues in this captivating and colorful experience!



Day Camps (Ages 6-10)

Secrets of the Earth

August 12th

9 am – 3 pm

Begin on an exciting journey to unravel the mysteries of our ever-changing Earth at Cape Fear Botanical Garden's immersive one-day camp! Engage with hands-on science experiments and nature explorations as we uncover the secrets of our planet's formation and transformation.

From modeling the Earth's layers to investigating the causes of earthquakes, exploring rocks and minerals, and even building our very own exploding volcano, this camp promises an adventure filled with discovery, learning, and plenty of excitement!

Legends and Lore

August 14th

9 am – 3 pm

Investigate the realm of myths and legends at Cape Fear Botanical Garden's captivating one-day camp! Explore the rich tapestry of ancient stories that have inspired generations and offered explanations for the wonders of the natural world.

From crafting our own mythical dragons to engaging in a fairy tale-inspired STEM Challenge, we'll embark on a quest across the Garden in search of hidden treasure, this camp promises an immersive and magical experience that spark the imagination and wonder of every camper!

Day Camps (Ages 8-12)

Fabric Creations

June 4th

9 am - 3 pm

Experience the colorful world of fabric arts at our camp, where creativity knows no bounds! Campers will have a blast weaving on looms and crafting hooked rugs, with each camper taking home fabulous projects.

That's not all – we'll also explore the fascinating realm of natural materials and plants used for fabrics and dyes. Enjoy a hands-on journey where imagination meets craftsmanship, and where every creation tells a unique story!



River Journeys

August 15th

9 am - 3 pm

Explore the wonders of the Cape Fear River, the largest river system in North Carolina, as it flows right through our Garden! We'll trace the river's journey and discover the vibrant life teeming within its waters.

Campers will have the opportunity to use nets to search for fish and tadpoles, embark on a hike down to the river's edge, and even construct their own floating rafts. It's an adventure-packed experience that promises exploration, discovery, and plenty of fun near the water!



Therapeutic Horticulture Camps Ages 8 - 13



Engage in the healing power of nature with our Therapeutic Horticulture Camps, designed to promote health and well-being for children and teens of all abilities. These camps offer a nurturing environment so participants can connect with the natural world and experience its restorative benefits. Through interactive activities, campers will not only develop critical thinking skills and hand-eye coordination but also gain a newfound appreciation for nature's beauty. Join us as we explore the outdoors through an artistic lens, fostering creativity, relaxation, and a deeper connection with the world around us. We highly recommend that Therapeutic Horticulture (TH) camps operate as "drop-off" programs.

However, if a caregiver is required, accompanying adults are welcome to stay.

All TH camps meet in the lobby of the Wyatt Visitors Pavilion Complex. Once all campers have gathered, campers in the entryway, and we will go to the Children's Pavilion and take mini excursions throughout the Garden. Participants will embark on a tour of the Butterfly Stroll, observe working beehives, and explore the vegetable garden, immersing themselves in the beauty of nature and the therapeutic benefits it offers.

Natural Materials

June 19th - 21st

9 am - 12 pm

Experience relaxing afternoons this summer. Discover the wonders of TH with a variety of activities. From foraging for natural treasures like small rocks and snail shells to crafting artistic projects, there's something for everyone. Join us as we create pressed flower clay ornaments, woodland nature boxes, natural wind chimes, handmade paint brushes, and indulge in healthy snacks. Summer is a season of creativity, relaxation, and connection with nature.

Pollinator Friends

June 24th - 26th

1 pm - 4 pm

An enriching experience where we'll create seed balls to support the environment and pollinators! Dig into the Heritage Vegetable Garden as we gather aromatic herbs like lavender, thyme, and sage to include in your nature journal, a keepsake of your botanical adventures. Embark on a tour of the Butterfly Stroll, where we'll discuss the vital role of pollinators, and cap off the day by crafting your very own hand-rolled beeswax candle.

It's a hands-on journey through nature that promises to ignite your curiosity and deepen your connection with the world around you!

Junior Gardening
July 29th - 31st
9 am - 12 pm

Discover the world of summer vegetables and the art of gardening in an immersive camp experience. Gain insights into starting your own garden and understand its significance for the future. Attendees will learn valuable tips and tricks for successful seed starting, the best plants for a thriving summer garden, and master the concept of self-watering containers.

There will be hands-on gardening projects and as part of the camp, we'll visit the Heritage Garden. Campers should come prepared with closed-toed shoes, hats, sunscreen, and other essentials for an enjoying outdoor exploration.

Nature Expressions
August 5th - 7th
1:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Escape the heat and join us for Nature Expressions. Step indoors and dive into the intricate beauty of nature through an artistic lens. Get up close and personal with natural wonders as we study detail, create prints using materials sourced from the environment, sketch dragonfly wings, and craft unique jewelry inspired by the colors of nature.

Nature Expressions is designed for art enthusiasts who seek to explore the natural world in creative ways. This is a captivating journey where art and nature intertwine, leaving you with newfound inspiration and appreciation for the world around us.

CFBG Camp Pricing 2024

Preregistration is required: capefearbg.org/camps24/

Sprouts, Explorers, Adventurers, Creators, and Summer Naturalist Camps

\$80 per camp for Garden Members*

\$100 per camp for non-members

Culinary Connections Camps

\$110 per camp for Garden Members*

\$130 for non-members

Single Day Camps

\$30 per camp for Garden Members*

\$40 per camp for non-members

Therapeutic Horticulture Camps

\$80 per camp for Garden Members*

\$100 per camp for non-members

**To receive the member discount, parents and guardians registering the camper must be a current Garden member at time of registration and throughout the entire camp season.*



CAPE FEAR
BOTANICAL
GARDEN

You can become a member of Cape Fear Botanical Garden at: capefearbg.org/memberships/ Garden members receive complimentary daily admission, reduced or special pricing at Garden events and programs, as well as other benefits. Join today!

Scholarships

Limited scholarship opportunities based on financial need are available on a first-come, first-serve basis for qualified campers.

For scholarship information and availability please contact:

Barbara Goldentyer, EE EDU Manager
at bgoldentyer@capefearbg.org or call
(910)486-0221, x43

Help Send a Child to Camp

CFBG depends on donations to provide scholarships for campers that might not otherwise be able to enjoy a camp experience.

\$40 sends a child to day camp

\$100 sends a child to a week-long camp

Any donation amount supports our camp scholarship fund

If you are interested in making a donation, the donation form is found at: <https://www.capefearbg.org/donate/>



Don't forget to select a camp tshirts! Select from 4 designs. Made in 100% preshrunk cotton. Available in youth sizes: XS, S, M, L - \$14 per shirt

Frequently Asked Questions

Our Education Team has put together a comprehensive list of frequently asked questions to assist your camper in gearing up for an enjoyable and adventurous experience at CFBG. If you have questions that you do not see answered here, please reach out to our Education Team at (910)486-0221.

Q. What should my child wear to camp?

A. Campers should wear clothes for exploring outside and experimenting with science and art. Camps are held outdoors and we love it when our campers get dirty in the Garden.

Q. Are open-toed shoes appropriate such as sandals?

A. For the safety of your camper, *close-toed shoes such as sneakers or hiking boots are required for all of our camps.*

Q. What should my camper bring to camp?

A. For those camps that run 9 am - 3 pm, your child should bring a packed lunch from home. *The Garden will provide a snack for all camps and you are welcome to send additional snack options for your child.* If your child is enrolled in a week-long camp, a reusable water bottle will be provided. For one-day camps, please send a water bottle to camp with your child.

Q. Is there a wait list?

A. Yes! CFBG camps fill up quickly. If you are interested in a camp that is full, please contact Barbara Goldentyer: bgoldentyer@capefearbg.org to be placed on a wait list.

Q. What happens during inclement weather?

A. As long as the Garden doesn't close due to the weather, the camps will be held indoors.

Q. Is my child allowed to participate in a camp that falls outside of their designated age range?

A. Camp Staffers consider age exemptions* on a case-by-case basis for campers with one year of the camp age range. We understand that children may have varied interests and abilities that may align better with camps outside their specific age range. While we recommend choosing camps that match your child's age group for the best experience, exceptions can be made based on the individual child's needs and interests. Reach out to our Education Team to discuss options and determine the best fit for your child.

**Age exemptions are considered after the registration period for Garden Members only has ended.*

Q. Can my camper bring a cellphone to camp?

A. While campers are permitted to bring cellphones for emergencies, we strongly encourage them to enjoy nature and fully engage in the camp experiences. Therefore, campers will be kindly asked to stow away their phones during camp activities. CFBG cannot be held responsible for any personal technology devices brought to camp from home.

Q. Our plans have changed and my child cannot attend camp. What is your refund policy?

A. CFBG provides a 90% refund of paid registration fees if requested up to 8 weeks prior to the start of the camp. A 50% registration refund is available for requests made up to 4 weeks before the camp start date. Refunds will not be issued within 4 weeks of the camp start date.

Q. My child has special needs. Will he/she still be able to attend your camp programs?

A. Absolutely. CFBG welcomes children with diverse abilities in all of our camps. If your camper needs specific accommodations, please contact us at:

General Camps: bgoldentyer@capefearbg.org

Therapeutic Horticulture Camps: mschroer@capefearbg.org

ALLERGIES AND DIETARY RESTRICTIONS:

At the Garden, we strive to accommodate allergies and dietary restrictions to ensure the health and safety of all campers. However, in some cases, it may be recommended that campers bring snacks from home. For our Culinary Connections camps, please reach out to us before registering to discuss any specific dietary needs. We are committed to providing a safe and enjoyable experience for all campers.