



**Date:** August 12, 2009

**ENGAGE YOUR CHILD'S CURIOSITY WITH FALL AND WINTER PROGRAMS  
FROM THE MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN'S FAMILY**  
*Enjoy Classes at the Garden, Butterfly House and Shaw Nature Reserve*

- WHAT:** Fall and winter programs for youth and families  
**WHEN:** Online registration now open for classes from August through February  
**WHERE:** Missouri Botanical Garden, 4344 Shaw Blvd. in south St. Louis;  
Sophia M. Sachs Butterfly House, 15193 Olive Blvd. in Chesterfield; and  
Shaw Nature Reserve, I-44 at exit #253 in Gray Summit  
**COST:** Varies  
**INFO:** Advance registration required; [www.mobot.org/classes](http://www.mobot.org/classes) or (314) 577-5140

(ST. LOUIS): The year may be winding down, but the Missouri Botanical Garden is gearing up for another season of engaging programs for children and families. Get fit with your wee one, help a youngster discover nature, observe the changing colors of autumn, and explore the world of animals and insects with a variety of fall and winter classes available at the Garden, the Sophia M. Sachs Butterfly House, and the Shaw Nature Reserve. View the complete list of classes and register online at [www.mobot.org/classes](http://www.mobot.org/classes).

**Missouri Botanical Garden**

Strollerobics returns this fall, offering adults with stroller-aged children the opportunity to get physically fit while spending time together enjoying the Garden's scenery. Participants push strollers along mostly flat paths, stopping to do cardio and toning exercises. The eight-week series begins the week of Sept. 8, with one-hour classes available on a choice of Tuesdays through Fridays at 9:30 a.m. or Tuesdays at 6 p.m. Cost is \$64 for the series.

**Little Sprouts** ages two and three, paired with an adult, will learn all about plants and nature

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### **ADD ONE: Fall/winter youth programs**

with a weekly series of classes from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Discover different types of plants, from flowers and herbs to bushes and vines, with the seven-week fall series offered on a choice of Mondays, Tuesdays or Wednesdays beginning Sept. 14; series cost is \$126 (includes one child and one adult). Visit the many “houses” at the Garden and find out what plants grow inside with the four-week winter series offered on Mondays beginning Nov. 16; cost is \$72.

Little ones who aren’t quite so little anymore will fit right in with **Garden Buds**, designed for ages four and five with an adult. Discover everything from Veggie Tales and Super Seeds to leaves, mazes, flytraps and evergreens as you explore the amazing plant world. Dates vary for Sunday afternoon and Thursday morning classes from September through November, and are \$18 each (includes one child and one adult).

Ever growing youngsters can go on **Great Green Adventures** or team with someone special for **Oaks and Acorns**. Both programs are designed for children ages six to 12 with an adult. Hour-long Great Green Adventures begin at the Doris I. Schnuck Children’s Garden entrance on the third Saturday of each month at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Drop in to learn about plants, nature and sustainability through hands-on activities, journaling, stories and games; cost is \$3 per child. Oaks and Acorns classes on Oct. 24, Nov. 14 and Dec. 12 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. each include a craft project to do together, from making colorful fall placements to using evergreens to decorate a small wreath. Cost for each is \$18 and includes one adult and one child.

The Missouri Botanical Garden is located at 4344 Shaw Blvd. in south St. Louis, easily accessible from Interstate 44 at the Vandeventer exit. For general information, visit [www.mobot.org](http://www.mobot.org).

### **Sophia M. Sachs Butterfly House**

**BUZZ** classes at the Butterfly House explore insects through the seasons and are designed for children ages six through eight with an adult. One of the greatest migrations is made by one of nature’s smallest beings: the monarch. Investigate their life cycle and learn to tag live butterflies in Monarch Migration and Tagging on Sept. 20. Find out how insects get ready for winter, stay warm and safe, depend on early leaves and vines, use pheromone scents and defense stinging, and care for the earth through pollination as BUZZ classes continue on subsequent Sundays through Oct. 25 from 12:30 to 2 p.m. Cost is \$15 per class and includes one child and one adult.

Bugs and Blossoms take center stage in winter’s 90-minute **Camp Bugaloo** classes. Train to become one of the Butterfly House staff members as you practice insect “care,” eat like a bug with common tools, and use nets to catch a high-flyer in the classroom on Jan. 8 at 9:30 a.m. or Jan. 10 at

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## **ADD TWO: Fall/winter youth programs**

12:30 p.m. Become a budding florist as you practice in a pretend greenhouse and plant garden trinkets in flower boxes, Feb. 12 at 9:30 a.m. or Feb. 14 at 12:30 p.m. Classes are \$15 each and include one child and one adult.

The Butterfly House is located at 15193 Olive Blvd. at Faust Park in Chesterfield. For general information, visit [www.butterflyhouse.org](http://www.butterflyhouse.org).

## **Shaw Nature Reserve**

Head to the great outdoors for programs at the Shaw Nature Reserve. Children ages eight and older can **Build a Bird Feeder** from cedar together with an adult, Sept. 19 from 10 a.m. to noon (adults are also welcome to come alone). Cost is \$25 per feeder.

**Garden Buds** ages three to five can use their senses to explore nature, learn about “unhuggable” critters, and spot camouflaged animals with classes on the first Tuesday of September, October and November from 9:30 to noon. Cost is \$18 per class and includes one child and one adult.

Enjoy an **Un-Haunted Halloween** on Oct. 24 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. as you explore a Halloween village, forest and prairie. Follow Jack-o-lantern-lit paths to the cat’s eye maze, take a hay ride, and listen to stories around the campfire. Designed for families with children ages three to 10. Cost is \$7 per person; meet at the Dana Brown Overnight Center.

**GPS Your Way Through Shaw Nature Reserve History** on Nov. 21 from 9 a.m. to noon in a class designed for families with children ages eight and older. Locate historic landmarks on the Reserve grounds as you navigate using a handheld GPS (global positioning system) unit. Cost is \$12 per person.

The Shaw Nature Reserve is located off Interstate 44 at exit #253, just two exits west of Six Flags in Gray Summit. For general information, visit [www.shawnature.org](http://www.shawnature.org).

## **To Register**

Advance registration is required for fall and winter classes. View the complete list of classes available at all locations and register online at [www.mobot.org/classes](http://www.mobot.org/classes). For questions or more information, call (314) 577-5140.

The Missouri Botanical Garden is the oldest continually operating botanical garden in the nation, celebrating its 150th anniversary in 2009. *Missouri Botanical Garden: Green for 150 Years*.

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**NOTE:** Digital color images available by request. Download media materials at [www.mobot.org/press](http://www.mobot.org/press).

The Missouri Botanical Garden's mission is "to discover and share knowledge about plants and their environment, in order to preserve and enrich life." Today, 150 years after opening, the Missouri Botanical Garden is a National Historic Landmark and a center for science, conservation, education and horticultural display. *Missouri Botanical Garden: Green for 150 Years*.