



HANA AND ARTHUR GINZBARG

nature discovery center

WINTER 18-19

PROGRAM GUIDE

IN THIS GUIDE

- 2 Kid Programs
- 2 Family Fun
- 3 Adult Programs
- 4 Activity Calendar
- 5 What's New & Different

MISSION

To ignite lifelong curiosity, understanding, and respect for nature through education.

DISCOVERY ROOM HOURS

NOON to 5:30 pm TUE - FRI
10 am to 5:30 pm SAT & SUN
CLOSED MONDAYS

ADMISSION IS FREE

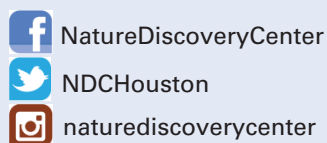
Donations are appreciated.
Groups of six or more children by appointment.

PARK & NATURE PLAY AREA HOURS

5 am to 9:30 pm DAILY

Russ Pitman Park is a City of Bellaire Park. Dogs, alcohol, and smoking are prohibited by city ordinance.

naturediscoverycenter.org



nature discovery center
7112 NEWCASTLE
BELLAIRE, TX 77401
T 713.667.6550



ADULT NATURE SERIES

Foraging for Edible Wild Plants *a workshop with Dr. Mark "Merriwether" Voderburggen*

Saturday, January 26 from 10 am – 1 pm

Tap your inner caveman and herbal healer at the Nature Discovery Center! Don't let the winter weather fool you, the grounds are still teaming with many edible and medicinal plants. Explore this forgotten world of floral delights with a wild edible and medicinal plant expert, "Merriwether". You'll be amazed by the food and curatives surrounding you even in the winter. Space is limited so that our harvesting doesn't impact the ecosystem. Ages 16+ are welcome. Sign up soon!

Cost: \$60 per person

Frisky Fauna: Animal Romance & Mating in the Animal Kingdom

Friday, February 15 at 7:30 pm

Are you looking for an unusual and interesting way to celebrate Valentine's Day? Join naturalist Eric Duran for a fun and slightly off-color presentation about love and courtship in the animal kingdom! We'll mingle over champagne, snacks, and a few party games before the talk. There will be a few laughs, and a lot of strange nature. This presentation is definitely for adults only ages 21+.

Cost: \$20/person

Advance registration required. Register online soon at: my-ndc.org/adults-programs/

KIDS

**Advance registration required unless otherwise specified. Register for kid's programs online at: naturediscoverycenter.org/kids-programs
Call 713.667.6550 for assistance.**

Curious Kids (3 - 5 yrs old with adult)

Tuesdays - 10 to 11:15 am or 4 to 5:15 pm

Preschoolers and their parents or caregivers will learn basic science concepts in hands-on classes that encourage and celebrate natural curiosity! Curious Kids lessons may incorporate live animals, plants, natural objects, crafts, puppets, stories, and nature walks.

Cost/Class: \$15 member / \$20 non-member

Members-Only Semester Discount: \$225

Winter/Spring 2019 Class Topics:

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 01/08 – Furry Friends | 03/19 – Creepy Crawly Inverts |
| 01/15 – Homes and Habitats | 03/26 – Fantastic Fish |
| 01/22 – Horns and Hooves | 04/02 – Totally Turtles |
| 01/29 – No class | 04/09 – Magnificent Mushrooms |
| 02/05 – Awesome Owls | 04/16 – Wonderful Worms |
| 02/12 – Toxic Tricks | 04/23 – Terrific Trees |
| 02/19 – The Deep Blue Sea | 04/30 – Springtime: Wildflowers |
| 02/26 – Life in a Log | 05/07 – Springtime: Birds |
| 03/05 – Light & the Sun | 05/14 – Springtime: Butterflies |
| 03/12 – SPRING BREAK | 05/21 – Springtime: Frogs |

Junior Scientists (6 - 10 yrs old)

Thursdays - 4 to 5:30 pm

Junior Scientists explore the natural world and examine a variety of science themes through hands-on investigations and experiments, and in lessons enriched with crafts, games, and more!

Cost/Class: \$15 member / \$20 non-member

Members-Only Semester Discount: \$225

Winter/Spring 2019 Class Topics:

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 01/10 – Furry Friends | 03/21 – Creepy Crawly Inverts |
| 01/17 – Homes and Habitats | 03/28 – Fantastic Fish |
| 01/24 – Horns and Hooves | 04/04 – Totally Turtles |
| 01/31 – No Class | 04/11 – Magnificent Mushrooms |
| 02/07 – Awesome Owls | 04/18 – Wonderful Worms |
| 02/14 – Toxic Tricks | 04/25 – Terrific Trees |
| 02/21 – The Deep Blue Sea | 05/02 – Springtime: Wildflowers |
| 02/28 – Life in a Log | 05/09 – Springtime: Birds |
| 03/07 – Light & the Sun | 05/16 – Springtime: Butterflies |
| 03/14 – SPRING BREAK | 05/23 – Springtime: Frogs |

Winter Break Day Camps

For kids ages 5 - 10 yrs old

Dates & Topics

Fri, Dec 21 – Cardinals in Winter

Wed, Jan 2 – Fuzzy Friends

Thur, Jan 3 – Winter Nature

Fri, Jan 4 – Plants, Animals, and Fungi

Mon, Jan 21 – Scaly and Slimy


Camps run from 9 am to 3:30 pm

Cost: \$49 member / \$59 non-member per day

After Care: available until 5:30 pm for \$15 per day

Advance registration required. Register online at: naturediscoverycenter.org/kids-programs/



 = Drop in program. Call 713.667.6550 if you are coming in a large group. Meet at the Center unless otherwise noted.

FAMILIES

Walk on the Wild Side

December 8, January 27, February 23 at 10 am

Explore and learn more about the wild side of nature in the city with our fun, family-friendly nature walks in Russ Pitman Park. Join us to sneak up on lizards, spy on honey bees, butterflies, or birds, search for colorful leaves or flowers, and investigate more seasonal nature surprises! Learn some tips to explore nature with your family in your own backyard or on your travels. These walks last about an hour.

Cost: FREE member / \$5/family non-member

Meet the Animals 💧

January 13 at 2 pm - Creepy Crawlies (Invertebrates)

Get to know our animals with up close and personal animal encounters! Each family-friendly Meet the Animals session includes: hands-on exposure to live animals and/or specimens, an informal discussion about the animal's basic biology and behavior, and a Q/A period with one of our Staff Naturalists.

Cost: \$10/family



Great Backyard Bird Count 💧

February 18 from 9 to 10:30 am

Join us at the Nature Discovery Center for this birding event. The Great Backyard Bird Count is part of a global effort to get a "snapshot" of bird populations worldwide in one weekend. Families are welcome. No registration required. We will meet at the front porch of the Center.

Bring a pair of binoculars. If you need to borrow a pair, please e-mail Mary Ann ahead of time so she can have a pair ready for you. (mbeauch@naturediscoverycenter.org)

Visit our website at www.naturediscoverycenter.org for a link to the Great Backyard Bird Count website for more information about it. Explore the results and check out species distribution or shifts in abundance by looking at the maps and lists in their "Explore Data" section.

ADULTS

Tree Identification Walks 💧 FREE

Dec 1, Jan 5, Feb 2, & Mar 2 at 10 am

Interested in learning how to identify local trees? Jim McKee, a Master Naturalist, tree lover, and bird watcher leads monthly tree identification walks in the park. Jim shares lots of interesting information and historical facts about the many species of trees we have in Russ Pitman Park as well as how to identify them.

Monday Morning Gardening 💧

Dec 3, Jan 7, Feb 4, & Mar 4 from 9:30 am to Noon

Do you want to learn about native plant gardening and non-native invasive species and help us care for the park at the same time? Adults are welcome to join us on the first Monday of the month for some light gardening that helps us maintain and improve our nature park. We'll remove invasive species, grow out & plant natives, trim the Pocket Prairie, water recently planted plants, and more.

No experience necessary. Experienced staff will work with you & guide you through projects. Email Mary Ann Beauchemin if you are interested in coming at mbeauch@naturediscoverycenter.org.

Upcoming Bird Walks 💧 FREE

Join us for a daytime stroll in the park to enjoy our resident birds this winter, or plan to visit this spring to see spring migrants as they move through the area.

Monthly Winter Bird Walks

Weds, Dec 5, Jan 9, Feb 6 from Noon to 1:15 pm

Lunch with the Birds (LWTB)

Weds, Feb 27 - May 8 from Noon to 1:15 pm

(We do not stop for lunch, but you can picnic here before or after the walk.)



Willow Waterhole Bird Survey 💧

Jan 19, Feb 16 & Mar 16 at 8 am

The Nature Discovery Center and Houston Audubon partner to conduct the Willow Waterhole bird survey on the 3rd Saturday of each month except December. This roughly 2 hour monthly survey lets both researchers and birders study how the creation of retention ponds can attract birds to urban areas as well as how populations of species change over time in this urban setting.

We invite you to help out with this survey, whether you're a novice or have birding experience! Meet in the parking lot of the Gathering Place at 5310 South Willow Drive, Houston, TX 77035.

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|--|---|--|---|
| DECEMBER | | | | | | | 1 Tree ID Walk 10a Photos with Santa 10a - 1p |
| 2 | 3 Monday Morning Gardening 9:30a | 4 CK: Animal Homes 10a, 4p | 5 Winter Bird Walk 12 Nature Storytime 4p | 6 JS: Habitats & Homes 4p | 7 | 8 Walk on the WILD Side 10a | |
| 9 | 10 | 11 CK: Winter Nature 10a, 4p Member Mtg 6:30p | 12 Nature Storytime 4p | 13 JS: Winter Science 4p | 14 | 15 | |
| 16 | 17 | 18 CK: Winter Crafts 10a, 4p | 19 Nature Storytime 4p | 20 JS: Winter Animals 4p | 21 Winter Break Camp Cardinals in Winter 9a - 3:30p or 5:30p | 22 | |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | |
| CENTER CLOSED | | | | | | | |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | | |
| | | 1 | 2 Winter Break Camp Fuzzy Friends 9a - 3:30p or 5:30p Nature Storytime 4p | 3 Winter Break Camp Winter Nature 9a - 3:30p or 5:30p | 4 Winter Break Camp Plants, Animals, & Fungi 9a - 3:30p or 5:30p | 5 Tree ID Walk 10a | |
| | | CENTER CLOSED | | | | | |
| 6 | 7 Monday Morning Gardening 9:30a | 8 CK: Furry Friends 10a, 4p | 9 Monthly Winter Bird Walk 12n Nature Storytime 4p | 10 JS: Furry Friends 4p | 11 | 12 | |
| 13 Meet the Animals Creepy Crawlies 2p | 14 | 15 CK: Homes & Habitats 10a, 4p | 16 Nature Storytime 4p | 17 JS: Homes & Habitats 4p | 18 | 19 Willow Waterhole Bird Survey 8a | |
| 20 | 21 Winter Break Camp Scaly & Slimy 9a - 3:30p or 5:30p | 22 CK: Horns & Hooves 10a, 4p | 23 Nature Storytime 4p | 24 JS: Horns & Hooves 4p | 25 | 26 Adult Wild Edibles Workshop 10a - 1p | |
| 27 Walk on the WILD Side 10a | 28 | 29 CK: NO CLASS | 30 Nature Storytime 4p | 31 JS: NO CLASS | JAN | | |

| FEBRUARY | | | | | 1 | 2 |
|---|--|--|--|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| | | | | | | Tree ID Walk 10a |
| 3 | 4 Monday Morning Gardening 9:30a | 5 CK: Awesome Owls 10a, 4p | 6 Monthly Winter Bird Walk 12n Nature Storytime 4p | 7 JS: Awesome Owls 4p | 8 | 9 |
| 10 Bubbles & More Play Day 1 - 3p | 11 | 12 CK: Toxic Tricks 10a, 4p | 13 Nature Storytime 4p | 14 JS: Toxic Tricks 4p | 15 Adult Nature Night Frisky Fauna 7:30p | 16 Willow Waterhole Bird Survey 8a |
| 17 | 18 Great Backyard Bird Count 9 - 10:30a | 19 CK: The Deep Blue Sea 10a, 4p | 20 Nature Storytime 4p | 21 JS: The Deep Blue Sea 4p | 22 | 23 Walk on the WILD Side 10a |
| 24 | 25 | 26 CK: Life in a Log 10a, 4p | 27 Bird Walk (LWTB) 12n Nature Storytime 4p | 28 JS: Life in a Log 4p | Note: Spring 2019 CK & JS classes will continue through May 23. See page 2 for the full list of dates and topics. | |

NEW & DIFFERENT

Girl/Cub Scout Programs Updated, NEW NDC Fun Patches Included

We have recently expanded and updated our Girl Scout and Cub Scout program offerings. Our Girl Scout programs now include new badges for Daisies through Cadettes, covering eco learning skills and nature related topics like flowers, gardening, and trees. Our Cub Scout programs for Tigers through Webelos now cover all of the requirements for each achievement offered!



Though scout groups are responsible for buying earned badges from the Scout Shop, we now offer NDC fun patches to all scouts who participate in our scout programs. The patches are 2.5" x 2.5".

Bubbles & More Play Day at the Nature Discovery Center **FREE**

Sunday, February 10 from 1 to 3 pm

The Center's front lawn, Pecan Grove, and the sidewalks around the Center will be set up with everything your kids need for a fun filled afternoon of outdoor play! You can feel like a kid again, too, if you join them playing with bubbles, hula hoops, jump ropes, sidewalk chalk, and more.

Kids should bring refillable water bottles.



To learn more about the scout programs we offer, visit naturediscoverycenter.org/activities/scout-programs/



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BELLAIRE, TX 77401

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WINTER 2018-2019

Activity Schedule



SAVE THE DATE

Spring Break Day Camps

March 11 - 15
from 9 am to 3:30 pm
(optional After Care to 5:30 pm)



SAVE THE DATE

Spring Fling

Saturday, April 13
from 10 am to 3 pm

Plan to join us for a beautiful
spring day out in the park.



This program guide is generously sponsored by:



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