



FAMILY PROGRAMS

SPRING & SUMMER 2026

SUMMER FUN SERIES

Butterfly Day

April 25 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Join us in celebrating another exciting season of "Butterflies in the Garden." Come and explore the secret life of butterflies in the Indoor 4-H Children's Garden. We will discover the amazing butterfly life cycle, create butterfly gardens to take home and much more.

Garden Geocache Event

June 6 from 9:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.

Cache veterans and new enthusiasts are welcome at this geocaching adventure. Bring your picnic lunch and enjoy a day of caching in the gardens. We will be finding new caches, trading travel bugs, exploring the gardens and much more. **FREE.**

Pirate and Pixie Garden Party

June 18 from 10 a.m.-noon

Argh me mateys. Join us for a morning of swashbuckling fun! We will be going on a treasure hunt, making pixie dust, decorate an eye patch and much more! **\$5 per child.***

Digger Day

June 23 from 10 a.m.-noon

Come to the garden and explore the world of diggers. Front- end loaders, dump trucks and back hoes - all of these tools help with projects both big and small in our communities. MSU Infrastructure Planning and Facilities will bring some of MSU's biggest and best equipment to the garden for us to explore. We will also have activities and crafts. Come ready to dig and get dirty at this event! **\$5 per child.***

Water Day

July 16 from 10 a.m.-noon

Come cool off from the summer heat and have fun in the garden with water. We will play water games, do water art and explore all things fun about water. Come ready to get wet! **\$5 per child.***

Bug Day

July 23 from 10 a.m.-noon

We cannot get enough of these amazing six-legged friends! Join us for what has become an annual tribute to insects in the gardens. We will be collecting bugs, observing bugs and even making bugs! Our friends from the MSU Bug House will be back this year with their amazing collections of insects from all over the world! **\$5 per child.***

Bubble Day

July 30 from 10 a.m.-noon

Come celebrate the end of summer vacation at the garden with bubbles! As we explore the wonderful world of bubbles we will paint, eat and even make music with bubbles. Don't forget to invite your friends and family to come to this bubblicious bash! **\$5 per child.***

CURIOSITY CAMPS

Garden Writers Workshop

July 7-9 from 10 a.m.-noon

Young writers will learn about the wonderful world of writing in the garden. Using the garden as their inspiration, campers will connect writing to nature by creating poems, stories, plays and much more. Ages 7 and up. (Limited to 20 participants). **Registration required. \$50 for all three days.***

Be sure to register early!



Stories for Sprouts & Seedlings from 10-11 a.m.

This program is designed especially for young children, ages 0-4, to experience the wonders of gardening and fun through stories and hands-on projects. **FREE.***

June 10 — How I Became a Pirate

by David Shannon

June 24 — The Tiny Seed by S. K Mundon

July 8 — Drop: An Adventure through the Water Cycle by Emily Kate Moon

July 22 — Jumper by Jessica Lanan

August 19 — We Walk Through the Forest by Lisa Ferland

Camp Monet

August 4-6 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Young artists will love spending three days in the gardens creating marvelous projects. Campers will use inspiration from the garden to make projects that involve sketching, painting, sculpting, dying, weaving and much more! Lunch will not be provided, so please bring a lunch each day. We will eat together in the garden. Ages 7 and up. (Limited to 20 participants). **Registration required. \$85 for all three days.***

SPLENDID STORIES

Stories in the Garden

June 17 from 10-11:30 a.m.

July 15 from 7-8:30 p.m.

August 5 from 10-11:30 a.m.

Teens will be reading stories to younger children - a magical time of fun and learning. Explore the gardens and stop to listen to stories as you go. Great for kids from 0 to 100!

Stories in the Garden is a partnership between the East Lansing Public Library and the Michigan 4-H Children's Gardens. Interested teen readers should email Storm at shawthorn@elpl.org.

IMPORTANT PARKING NOTE

Visitors during the week needing to park on campus will have a parking fee in addition to any registration cost to attend the event.

You must park in a space designated as a "Pay by Plate" parking space. Signage has been installed in these areas. Parking spaces not marked as "Pay by Plate" may be reserved for faculty/staff permit parking. Parking in a space not designated as "Pay by Plate" parking may result in a parking violation. Immediately after parking, enter your license plate number and payment into the lot's SPOTON pay station or via the MSU SPOTON app. Pay stations accept cash payment or credit cards. They do not give change back nor are refunds issued for time paid for, but not used.