

FAQS FOR 2024 HOMESCHOOL NATURE JOURNALING

ABOUT THIS CLASS

Nature journaling is collecting and recording your observations, questions, and connections in a journal, using words, pictures, and numbers. We will combine illustration skills with scientific observations of our surroundings. You do not need to be a scientist, naturalist, or artist to begin this practice.

This class continues from Fall 2023 through the 2024 Spring session for ages 7-14 in February, March, and April. If your child is joining us for the first time later in the sessions and has no previous nature journaling experience, please contact Melissa Kyle to determine the best fit at mkyle@houstonarboretum.org. Most students will be able to begin with any Spring session, regardless of experience.

PARKING

Houston Arboretum & Nature Center – 610 Entrance
120 W Loop N Freeway, Houston, TX 77024

Parking is free for members when you enter the parking code given with your membership into the ParkMobile/ParkHouston app or at the parking kiosks.

DROP OFF AND CLASS INFO

This class will be held outside at Emmott Circle, at the junction of the Inner Loop and Buttonbush trails. Classroom G (Grapevine), just inside the Nature Center entrance, will be used in case of extreme weather. There will be yellow arrows directing you to the sign-in.

For safety reasons, campers must be accompanied to check-in and be signed in and out by an adult. Students under the age of 18 are not allowed to enter the class alone.

Class will begin promptly at 11am. Please allow plenty of time for parking and the short walk to Emmott Circle. This class is only one hour so we will always get started promptly at 11 and **end at noon.** Please pick up your child promptly at noon, whether they will be attending Homeschool classes at 1pm Mondays or not.

WHAT TO BRING

All nature journaling supplies are provided. Journals will remain at the Houston Arboretum each week until the end of the current class session. If your child is taking subsequent sessions, they may request their journal remain with the class materials or take it with them at the last class to return at a later session.

Wear closed-toed shoes and comfortable clothes appropriate for the weather. Some activities may have specific needs and include hikes to other areas -- those will be emailed to you before class each week if applicable.

Please bring:

- Refillable water bottle
- Sun/Rain protection (e.g. sunscreen, hat, sunglasses, rain jacket)

This is a one-hour class and there is no dedicated snack time or restroom break so please make sure children have taken care of all needs before signing in.

MOSQUITOS

We will provide insect repellent with 25% DEET as the active ingredient. You are welcome to bring your own repellent with your child but please note that the [Centers for Disease Control](#) does not recommend Citronella or other botanical repellents except for those containing oil of lemon eucalyptus.

ALLERGIES AND MEDICAL CONDITIONS

Please note that you have filled out our Emergency Contact and Medical Information form during registration. If you have forgotten anything or wish to add information, please contact Melissa Kyle at mkyle@houstonarboretum.org **The Houston Arboretum does not administer medications.**

HEAT SAFETY

Naturalists and all teaching staff are informed of heat safety and how to identify any signs of distress. We will take frequent breaks, stick to mostly shaded areas when possible, and monitor conditions throughout the class.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND BLOG

Photos are sometimes taken during our classes. Occasionally, photos are used by local TV stations, newspapers, and magazines. Photos are also used on the Houston Arboretum's social media pages. If you would not like your child photographed or videoed, please inform Christina Spade, our Registrar, at cspade@houstonarboretum.org

CANCELLATION/REFUND POLICY

All sales are considered final. For questions about registrations, cancellations, refunds, and waitlists, please refer to our [cancellation policy](#) or contact Christina Spade at cspade@houstonarboretum.org