



Checking for pond life



Watching a butterfly chrysalis emerge



Butterfly Cottage, Marin Art & Garden Center

Field Trips Reservations:

- “Exploring Habitats”
- “Pollen Nation”

Contact: Main office at Marin Art & Garden Center 415-455-5260 or info@magc.org

Fees & Billing: \$120 per field trip per class, \$60 non-refundable deposit paid in advance

Scholarships: Limited scholarships are available that include transportation. Please contact the office for more information.

Dates & Times: “Exploring Habitats”—Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:30-1:00 pm, Sept.-Oct., 2008 and March, April, May and June, 2009

“Pollen Nation”—Mondays 10:30-1:00 pm, Sept.-Oct., 2008 and April-May, 2009

Trip Details: Sent with billing—advice information packet, including suggested classroom activities for before and after the field trip.

Marin Art & Garden Center
MAGC Garden Education Program
30 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., Ross, CA 94957
www.magc.org

About the MAGC Site

Saved from development in 1943, the 11-acre community center is a Certified Wildlife Habitat approved by the National Wildlife Federation. Graced with ancient trees and plantings of California natives the gardens are a Pesticide Free Zone where organic sustainable gardening methods are used. The Habitat Garden features a woodland, butterfly garden, habitat pond and seep.



What School Teachers Think

“Thank you for a fantastic field trip! The kids learned so much and really enjoyed themselves too. It’s so helpful for Teachers to have a field trip that is aligned with our curriculum.”

“We benefited from the connection to our second grade curriculum and the emphasis of caring for nature and the creatures on our earth.”

“I am writing to thank you for the excellent field trip... The field trip was a favorite of the kids and they still can’t stop talking about it.”

Photos: Alice Cason - landscapes; Norma Novy - kids at wagon; butterfly and larva - MAGC staff.



marin
art &
garden
center

Eco-Friendly
Education
for Schools

- “Exploring Habitats”
Field Trips for First and Second Grades
- “Pollen Nation” Field Trips for Fourth Grade
- “Beneficial Predators”
Field Trips for First through Fifth Grades

Hands-on inquiry assisted by the U.C.C.E. Marin Master Gardeners, the Hungry Owl Project and MAGC volunteers



Students discover pond life.



Anise swallowtail larva



Digging through the worm bin



Close encounters with local wildlife



Alex Godbe and Wookie

“Exploring Habitats”

Field Trips for First and Second Grades

Held at the MAGC Habitat Garden and Butterfly Cottage for classes of up to 24 students. Scheduled Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:30 am-1:00 pm during September-October, 2008 and March, April, May and June, 2009

Explore the garden with docents who teach at four stations:

- **Compost:** While digging through the worm compost bin, reflect on the complete food cycle and how to build healthy soil, and understand decomposers and the soil food web.
- **Woodland:** Identify the trees in the garden and learn about the animals that live in the California native woodland even though we may not see them.
- **Pond:** Besides frogs and turtles, who else lives here? Learn how to use a magnifier and discover the unseen wonders of pond life.
- **Butterfly Garden:** Look at the butterflies, birds and flowers, and in the quiet of the garden pretend you are the scientist. You have just discovered this fauna or flora. What are its characteristics and what would you name it? Watch the bird feeders and see our local feathered friends.

Get your hands dirty with the following activities:

- turning over a stone to find pill bugs
- digging through the worm bins
- collecting seeds, flowers and leaves
- discovering an egg or pupa of a butterfly
- dipping in the pond for creatures in the water

We provide a wealth of academic and practical knowledge based on years of experience. The curriculum, taught by the University of California Marin Master Gardeners and environmental educators, is aligned with the California State Board of Education Science Content Standards for Grades First and Second.

Correlation with California State Science Standards

	First Grade	Second Grade
Life Sciences	2.a, 2.b, 2.c	2.a, 2.b, 2.c, 2.d
Earth Sciences		3.e
Investigation & Experimentation		4.f

“Pollen Nation”

Field Trips for Fourth Grade

Held at the MAGC Habitat Garden for classes of up to 30 students. Scheduled Mondays from 10:30 am-1:00 pm during September-October, 2008 and April-May, 2009

In this field trip we use the garden as a tool for exploring how plants and animals have co-evolved to help each other.

- **Pollination ecology:** Plants have evolved beautiful flowers to attract pollinators such as bees, hummingbirds, butterflies, and other insects, while these creatures have evolved special tools for extracting the rich food provided as nectar and pollen.
- **Seed travelers:** Plants have several strategies for dispersing their seeds, including relying on many garden animals!
- **Flower and pollinator biology:** What’s in a flower? What makes a bee a bee?

- **Stewardship:** Students will learn about the overall decline in pollinators, the specific crisis affecting honeybees, and how to help protect pollinator habitat and attract pollinators to a garden.
- Seasonal, garden-related activities
- Classes will take a “habitat garden in a bowl” back to their schools.

Correlation with California State Science Standards

	Fourth Grade
Life Sciences	2.a, 3.b, 3.c

“Beneficial Predator”

Field Trips for First through Fifth Grades

The Hungry Owl Project, which operates under the nonprofit WildCare, offers presentations on beneficial predators such as barn owls. Presentations include special live animal guests and hands-on activities such as dissecting owl pellets and painting an owl box.

Held at the outdoor MAGC Redwood Amphitheater for first through fifth grades from 10:30 am–1:00 pm on Fridays during September-October, 2008, and March-April, 2009, these field trips cost \$75 and can accommodate up to 75 students.

To schedule a date for your class, contact **Alex Godbe**, Director, Hungry Owl Project, **415-454-4587**, alexgodbe@aol.com. For more information, visit the Hungry Owl Project website at www.hungryowl.org or www.wildcarebayarea.org.

Top right photo: Bob Bloomberg - owl