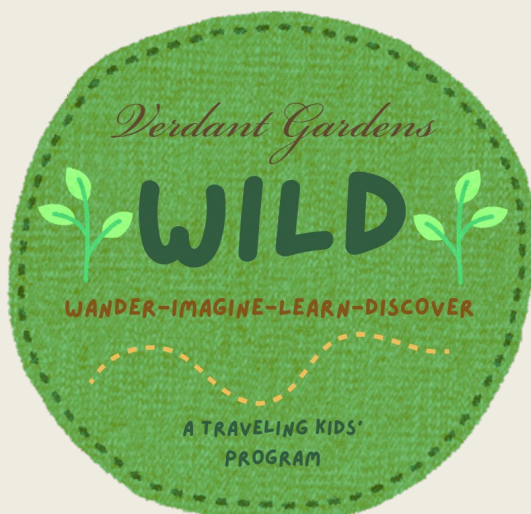




# Verdant in the WILD

*Wander, Imagine, Learn, Discover*

Traveling Nature Parties + Workshops

*Where curiosity grows wild.*

Hands-on garden and nature experiences brought to birthdays, schools, libraries, community groups and special events throughout the Rochester area.

DISCOVER · EXPLORE · CREATE · TAKE NATURE HOME

## THE VERDANT EXPERIENCE

## Nature learning that feels like play

Verdant in the WILD brings the spirit of the future Verdant garden directly to you. Every experience begins with a genuinely interesting ecological idea, turns it into something children can touch, test, map, build or investigate, and ends with a project that helps them carry that connection home.

Designed by Samantha Coccia-Schillo, a conservation biologist, geospatial scientist and longtime gardener, Verdant programs blend science, creativity and the kind of joyful noticing that makes the natural world feel close to home.

## Three ways to wander...

| EXPERIENCE | TIME       | STARTING AT* | BEST FOR                                                      |
|------------|------------|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Discovery  | 60 min     | \$225        | Simple nature craft + active exploration                      |
| Explorer   | 75–90 min  | \$295        | A more intricate planted, painted or field project + activity |
| Naturalist | 90–120 min | \$355        | Premium multi-part keepsake + deeper investigation            |

\*Starting prices include up to 8 children. Final pricing depends on group size, location, seasonal materials and selected take-home project. Travel beyond the standard service area may be additional.

## What every booking includes

**A VERDANT MINI-LESSON** Short, engaging ecology or garden learning designed for the age group.

**HANDS-ON EXPLORATION** A game, experiment, scavenger hunt, design challenge or investigation.

**A CREATIVE PROJECT** A meaningful craft or garden project connected to what children just learned.

**MATERIALS + FACILITATION** Verdant brings the teaching materials, activity supplies and project materials. Samantha will coordinate when to arrive to set up the perfect Verdant experience for your gathering!

VERDANT DISCOVERY PARTIES • STARTING AT \$225

## Small projects. Big curiosity.

A lively 60-minute experience for groups who want plenty of nature discovery with a simple, creative take-home. Ideal for younger children, libraries and community programming.

### Caterpillar Club

RECOMMENDED AGES 4–8 • 60 MIN

*Meet the tiny eating machines behind one of nature's most astonishing transformations.*

**DISCOVER** How caterpillars become butterflies—and why most caterpillars cannot eat every plant.

**EXPLORE** Match familiar caterpillars to their host plants, then invent a caterpillar and the plant it would need to survive.

**CREATE + TAKE HOME** A colorful caterpillar-to-butterfly life-cycle wheel.

### Frog Pond Party

RECOMMENDED AGES 4–8 • 60 MIN

*Hop into the changing world of frogs, tadpoles and pond habitats.*

**DISCOVER** The frog life cycle and what a healthy pond needs.

**EXPLORE** Sequence metamorphosis, listen for frog-call clues and move through a playful frog life-cycle challenge.

**CREATE + TAKE HOME** A layered paper pond habitat with a frog friend.

## Tree Detectives

RECOMMENDED AGES 5–10 • 60 MIN

*Look closer at the quiet giants growing right outside our doors.*

**DISCOVER** How leaves, bark, buds and seeds help us recognize different trees.

**EXPLORE** Try bark rubbings, leaf comparisons and a mini tree-ID challenge using real natural clues when available.

**CREATE + TAKE HOME** Leaf-print artwork or a pocket tree-detective card set.

## Backyard Wildlife Detective

RECOMMENDED AGES 5–10 • 60 MIN

*Solve the mystery of who visited when nobody was looking.*

**DISCOVER** How biologists use tracks, feathers, nests, scat and feeding signs to learn about wildlife.

**EXPLORE** Work through a 'Who visited Verdant last night?' clue mystery.

**CREATE + TAKE HOME** A mini wildlife field guide for recording tracks and signs.

## Super Seeds

RECOMMENDED AGES 4–9 • 60 MIN

*Crack open a seed and discover the tiny plant waiting inside.*

**DISCOVER** Seed anatomy, germination and the many ways seeds travel.

**EXPLORE** Dissect a soaked bean and test wind-, water- and animal-inspired seed dispersal ideas.

**CREATE + TAKE HOME** A germination window bag or seed necklace to observe at home.

VERDANT EXPLORER PARTIES • STARTING AT \$295

## Our signature hands-on experiences.

Explorer experiences add a more substantial garden or nature project to the Verdant formula. Most run 75–90 minutes and make wonderful birthday parties, homeschool gatherings and special workshops.

### The Great Bird Migration

RECOMMENDED AGES 6–11 • 90 MIN

*Follow a bird across the continents—then build the habitat it needs when it arrives.*

**DISCOVER** Why birds migrate, the hazards they face and why stopover habitat matters.

**EXPLORE** Choose a migratory bird, trace its flyway on a large map, then work in teams to create your own stopover habitat.

**CREATE + TAKE HOME** Paint and decorate a wooden birdhouse to bring home.

Verdant distinguishes decorative birdhouse crafts from species-specific nesting boxes and keeps the conservation message focused on safe habitat, food and water. Ask about our upgrade option to a species-specific nesting box!

### Little Gardener

RECOMMENDED AGES 4–9 • 75–90 MIN

*Dig in, get creative and learn to grow.*

**DISCOVER** What seeds need to germinate and what young plants need to grow.

**EXPLORE** Sort and compare surprising seeds from familiar vegetables and flowers.

**CREATE + TAKE HOME** Decorate a terra-cotta pot, plant a seed and create a wooden plant marker.

## VERDANT EXPLORER PARTIES

## Monarch Magic

**RECOMMENDED AGES 5–10 • 75–90 MIN***Follow one butterfly from milkweed leaf to Mexico and back again.*

**DISCOVER** Monarch metamorphosis, migration and the essential relationship between monarch caterpillars and milkweed.

**EXPLORE** Take on a monarch migration obstacle course and sequence the butterfly life cycle.

**CREATE + TAKE HOME** Create a monarch suncatcher or painted butterfly project, paired with a native-plant action card.

## Busy Bee Pollinator Party

**RECOMMENDED AGES 4–9 • 75–90 MIN***Become a pollinator and see how flowers recruit some very busy helpers.*

**DISCOVER** How pollen moves between flowers and why pollinators matter to wild plants and our food.

**EXPLORE** Play a hands-on pollen-transfer game that makes invisible pollen movement visible.

**CREATE + TAKE HOME** Decorate a small pot and plant a pollinator-friendly flower or herb.

## My First Native Garden

**RECOMMENDED AGES 6–12 • 90 MIN***Design a garden that feeds more than people.*

**DISCOVER** What 'native plant' means and how plants become habitat for birds, butterflies and other wildlife.

**EXPLORE** Use wildlife and plant cards to solve habitat challenges for monarchs, hummingbirds, goldfinches and more.

**CREATE + TAKE HOME** Plant a locally appropriate native seed or small plant and create a mini habitat plan for home.

## VERDANT EXPLORER PARTIES

## Veggie Detectives

AGES 4–10 • 75 MIN

*Roots, stems, leaves, flowers, fruits or seeds—which plant part is on your plate?*

**DISCOVER** The six plant parts we eat and how a vegetable garden changes through the season.

**EXPLORE** Sort mystery vegetables by plant part, investigate seeds and add an optional taste test when the host can support food service.

**CREATE + TAKE HOME** Plant a vegetable seed and decorate a garden marker.

## Wildflower Artists

AGES 6–12 • 75–90 MIN

*Slow down and notice the architecture hidden inside a flower.*

**DISCOVER** Flower anatomy, pollination and a few beautiful native wildflowers of New York.

**EXPLORE** Observe flower parts with magnifiers and try a color, shape and symmetry scavenger hunt.

**CREATE + TAKE HOME** Create pressed-flower-style botanical art or a nature bookmark using seasonally appropriate materials.

## For children who want to dig deeper.

Verdant Naturalist experiences start at \$355. These 90–120 minute, multi-part workshops are built around a premium tool or keepsake and work especially well for older children, small birthday groups, homeschool pods and enrichment programs.

### Junior Botanist

**AGES 7–13 • 90–120 MIN**

*Learn to look at a plant the way a field botanist does.*

**DISCOVER** What do botanists collect, observe and record? — and why careful observation matters!

**EXPLORE** Examine leaves and flowers, practice basic specimen notes and begin a field-journal page.

**CREATE + TAKE HOME** A wooden flower press plus a starter botanical journal page for future discoveries.

### Junior Entomologist

**AGES 7–13 • 90–120 MIN**

*Six legs, three body regions and endless variety: welcome to the insect world.*

**DISCOVER** What makes an insect an insect, and how insects differ from spiders, worms and other small creatures.

**EXPLORE** Head outside for a gentle bug safari when conditions allow, using magnifiers and observation tools.

**CREATE + TAKE HOME** A bug-viewing tool, magnifier and mini field journal for continued observation.



## VERDANT NATURALIST EXPERIENCES

## Garden-to-Go Workshop

AGES 6–13 • 90–120 MIN

*Build a little garden kit designed to keep curiosity growing after the party ends.*

**DISCOVER** How gardeners plan for light, water, soil and the needs of the plants they choose.

**EXPLORE** Design a tiny seasonal garden, compare seed types and practice reading a seed packet.

**CREATE + TAKE HOME** A decorated planter or grow container, planted seeds, markers and a small Verdant nature journal or explorer tool.

## Wonderful as a workshop series

Some topics become even richer when children can return and observe change over time. Ask about multi-session versions of Raise a Butterfly, Seed-to-Sprout, Garden Club, Pollinator Watch and seasonal Nature Journaling. Live- caterpillar programs are offered only when seasonal timing and responsible care can be supported.

## MAKE IT YOUR OWN

## Little extras for curious kids

Keep the experience simple, or add a small keepsake that extends the adventure after Verdant packs up.

### Little Naturalist Kit

AGES 4+ • ADD-ON

*A charming upgrade for birthday guests, class participants or nature-club members.*

**DISCOVER** Curiosity grows through careful noticing.

**EXPLORE** Choose a tool and practice one quick field observation.

**CREATE + TAKE HOME** A reusable explorer bag with a mini nature journal, pencil, magnifier and rotating identification card. Contents may vary seasonally.

### Nature Journal Upgrade

AGES 5+ • ADD-ON

*Give children a dedicated place to sketch, count, wonder and notice.*

**DISCOVER** How field notes help naturalists remember what they see.

**EXPLORE** Begin one guided observation together.

**CREATE + TAKE HOME** A simple field notebook plus a guided first observation page and pencil.

### Plant-It-Forward Upgrade

AGES 5+ • ADD-ON

*Turn a creative project into a small action for habitat.*

**DISCOVER** Why the right plant in the right place can support local wildlife.

**EXPLORE** Choose a planting goal that fits the selected program.

**CREATE + TAKE HOME** Add a locally appropriate native seed, seed packet or small plant to select eligible programs, subject to season and availability.

## PLAN YOUR VISIT

## Good to know

**GROUP SIZE** Published starting prices are designed around groups of up to 8 children. Larger groups are welcome; the format may be adjusted to keep activities engaging and safe.

**LOCATION** Verdant travels to homes, schools, libraries, community spaces and event venues in the Rochester-area region. Outdoor access is helpful for some programs but not required for every theme.

**SEASONALITY** Plant material, outdoor investigations and live-organism topics vary with the season. Verdant will suggest thoughtful substitutions when nature has other plans.

**AGES** Age ranges are guides. Programs can be simplified or deepened for mixed-age groups, homeschool communities and special events.

## Bring a little Verdant to your next gathering

Tell us the age range of your group, the approximate number of children, location and the nature themes they already love. We will then help you choose an experience—or shape one around the season and your event!

### Perfect for

Birthday parties • Homeschool groups • Libraries • Scout and youth groups • School enrichment • Community events • Garden clubs • Family gatherings

### BOOKING

**Contact Verdant Gardens to check availability, travel area and current pricing.**

**Email us at [visitverdant@gmail.com](mailto:visitverdant@gmail.com)**

Visit the [Verdant Gardens website](#) to inquire and book.

*Connection to nature and community can grow anywhere.*

**VERDANT GARDENS**