Building on more than 87 years of excellence, Bok Tower Gardens provides authentic and engaging educational experiences for learners of all ages. Our education program uses the rich resources of the Gardens to cultivate a sense of wonder and serve as a source of inspiration. Educational programs provide hands-on learning activities and leadership opportunities designed to challenge students to learn, grow and solve problems.

The Bok Tower Gardens Education Department Values:

• Authentic, engaging hands-on learning experiences
• Academic excellence delivered with integrity and respect
• Accessibility for all audiences
BOK ADVENTURES
* PK-5th Grade
Bok Tower Gardens offers students rich experiential learning opportunities. The curricula are designed using best practices in Excellence in Environmental Education and experiential educational approaches. Age-appropriate, inquiry-based, hands-on and fun adventures are led by trained educators providing a unique experience for every visit.

- Each Bok Adventure includes independent learning and direct instruction. Expect your students to be delighted and challenged!
- Homeschool groups, scouts, 4-H clubs, and other mixed-age groups are welcome.

CHILDREN’S GARDEN NATURE PLAY TOUR
* Best for PK-1st Grade
Bring your students to our brand new Children’s Garden where our trained Nature Play Guides will lead them through a variety of fun activities as they learn, explore, and create. Our activities are inspired by the features of our Children’s Garden, and may include bark and leaf rubbings, a shape finding challenge, spider web weaving, an exploration of natural pigments, planting their own seeds to take home, and nature stories. Children will also have designated time for free nature play during the tour. Our Children’s Garden has misters, fountains, and a water pump, so they will get wet!

INSECTS UP CLOSE
* Best for Grades 2 – 5
Bok Tower Gardens is home to a myriad of insect species; beautiful butterflies, busy bees, and lovely ladybugs, just to name a few. Insect lovers, and those who find them a bit icky, will have fun on this adventure, digging through compost, hunting for insects in their habitat, and learning about insect life cycles. Students will get to act out the relationship between insect pollinators and plants, and understand our dependence on insect pollinators for our food. Your students will also enjoy a sweet honey tasting of different Florida honeys!

BUILD YOUR BOK ADVENTURE
YOU MAY COMBINE ANY OF OUR PK-5 BOK ADVENTURES WITH AN ADVENTURE IN THE CHILDREN’S GARDEN, A CLASS PICTURE AT THE TOWER, A TILE RUBBING SCAVENGER HUNT, OR A TEAM-BUILDING CHALLENGE. EMAIL EDUCATION@BOKTOWER.ORG FOR PRICES AND TO SCHEDULE A FULL DAY OF FUN, LEARNING, AND TEAMWORK.
MATH IN THE GARDENS  
* Best for Grades 2 - 5  
Math is everywhere at Bok Tower Gardens, from the large round head of a sunflower to the grand landscape design of Fredrick Law Olmsted, Jr. Your students will delight in the beauty of math as they work together to find and compare hidden shapes and patterns in nature, measure angles, perimeter, area, and volume, and find lines of symmetry in natural objects. Students can even design their own garden. Use their designs to launch or revitalize your own school garden!

“The children loved the ‘outside classroom’ and over 90% of students were engaged over 75% of their field trip. I would call that success. The students are still working on creating their short stories and poems.”  
- Gibbons Street Elementary, 4th Grade

GROWING READERS  
* Best for Grades 2 - 3  
Bok Tower Gardens is the perfect place to instill in your students a love of reading; the quiet serenity of the gardens invites reading and sharing stories with distinctly natural themes. Your tour will center around one or two carefully selected picture books, and fun hands-on activities that complement the theme and content of those books. Afterwards, have your students find a special place in the gardens and spend a bit of time reading before you leave!

GROWING WRITERS  
* Best for Grades 4 - 5  
Use the beautiful natural setting of Bok Tower Gardens and the extraordinary story of Edward Bok to inspire your students’ writing! Students will explore the gardens, collecting observations that will be fashioned into metaphors and similes, as well as their own nature poem. Students will use their five senses to write a detailed description of their favorite garden find, and will have a chance to reflect on how they will “make you the world a bit better or more beautiful because you have lived in it”, as Edward Bok’s grandmother said to him.
BIG IDEAS IN SCIENCE
Bok Tower Gardens educational curriculum is science-based with an experiential, Five E approach. We focus on how science is done—observation, investigation, research, recording, and inference. Engaging activities in the life sciences explore diversity, adaptations, and interdependence. Using science vocabulary, tools, and practices we connect the experiential learning students are doing today to the global scientific community. At Bok Tower Gardens, students become scientists!

LANGUAGE ARTS FLORIDA STANDARDS
Rich vocabulary, interactive discussions, and opportunities to share learning are the backbone of experiential education at Bok Tower Gardens. Utilizing a variety of techniques such as nature journals, floor books, and workbooks, students are prompted to read, discuss, and write about their experiences. Students are active learners, working together to build upon what they know and to build their skills in communication. Bok Tower Gardens archives are publicly accessible as an online digital collection to aid in pre- and post-trip primary source document research. The Education Department also has a lending library for students featuring historical stories and ecological literacy titles.

MATHEMATICAL STANDARDS
Math practices connect with science and language standards to create a foundational approach to learning during Bok Tower Gardens educational tours. Students do measurements and record data in multiple expressions: orally, visually, and in print. Applying geometric concepts and studying symmetry are a natural fit in the Garden setting.

SOCIAL STUDIES STANDARDS
History comes to life at Bok Tower Gardens. Edward Bok’s life story from child immigrant to the editor of the most influential magazine of its day promotes students to be engaged in their education and to act as active members of the community. His legacy is the mission of the Gardens: “Make you the world better or more beautiful having lived in it.” Our approach uses his story as a source of information, inspiration, and reflection. The website contains the digital archives of photos, letters, music, and other primary sources.
“Children are smarter, more cooperative, happier and healthier when they have frequent and varied opportunities for free and unstructured play in the out-of-doors.” (Children and Nature 2008: A Report on the Movement to Reconnect Children to the Natural World, Children and Nature Network)

WHAT IS NATURE PLAY?
Nature Play is unstructured play in natural areas. Nature play is open-ended, free exploration and recreation without interruptive adult regulation. Many grown-ups will remember nature play as simply their quintessential childhood experience. Today, many factors prevent children from enjoying unstructured time outdoors. Bok Tower Gardens new Children’s Garden offers a safe place for exploration with many opportunities for young children to connect with nature.

WHY IS NATURE PLAY IMPORTANT?
There is a growing body of research data about the multiple positive impacts of nature play on children’s social, emotional, intellectual, and physical well-being. Richard Louv’s best-selling book, Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature Deficit Disorder, details these benefits.

Be the first to invite your students to splash, climb, explore and learn in the brand new children’s garden. The Children’s Garden is 2.7 acres of water and wonders that will delight students ages 2-12. In the Children’s Garden your students will play with sound to create melodies, find a stage to act their favorite stories, and climb over and through beautiful sculptures that subtly teach about the unique animals that make their home in central Florida. Plan on spending at least an hour in the Children’s Garden before heading up to the Tower to look for your school from the mountain. You may combine a visit to the Children’s Garden with a guided visit.
The Children’s Garden balances appropriate risky play and safety so that children of all ages and abilities will find challenges physically and mentally. Natural elements provide loose parts (shells, acorns, sticks, and more!) with which children can use their imaginations to play in endless variety. When children create their own play and negotiate rules with peers, they are practicing for being helpful, healthy, and happy members of society. But most importantly—play is how we have fun!

Teachers and chaperones are responsible for the children’s safety and are also part of making the experience positive and fun. We encourage adults to actively participate in play at the Children’s Garden by being present for children without interrupting play unless necessary. Marvel at the skills your students are developing during play, participate in the play as the child directs, and allow that learning is part of play but is not the goal of play.

FIELD TRIPS IN THE CHILDREN’S GARDEN

• Bok Adventure groups are welcome to visit our Children’s Garden after the guided tour has ended. We recommend planning for 30 minutes to 1 hour of play time.
• We recommend a maximum of two classes visit the Children’s Garden at a time.
• Self-guided tour groups are encouraged to tour the Gardens first and then visit the Children’s Garden afterward. We recommend self-guided tours lasting 1.5 to 2 hours with an additional 30 min to 1 hour for play at the Children’s Garden.
• The Children’s Garden includes water features that allow children to get wet.
Students will learn teamwork, communication and courtesy as they work together to solve challenges they cannot solve alone in this team-building course. Activities and cooperative games encourage everyone to work to get to know each other, work with different people, create positive relationships, practice leadership skills, understand group dynamics, and laugh together.

BUILDING CHARACTER + *The Low Ropes Challenge Course*

Encounter a series of physical challenges and mental obstacles utilizing ropes, boards, platforms, and each other. Trained staff assess the group’s needs and help create goals. Guided discussions help identify individual strengths, reaffirm problem-solving techniques, and develop leadership and collaboration skills.

BUILDING CHARACTER + *Tree Climbing*

Get a bird’s eye view as you dangle from the branches of a tree safely tethered by a rope and harness! Choose the height of your ascent and swing aloft, walk on a branch, or lounge in a canopy-height hammock. This is a great peak experience which promotes self-reliance, healthy decision-making and adventure!

“Great successes have been made as often in quiet was as with the blare of trumpets...The truest success is that which is earned slowly, but which surely strengthens itself.”

– EDWARD W. BOK

Building Character programs are implemented in partnership with Pathfinder Outdoor Education. Pathfinder is a non-profit organization founded in 1993 and dedicated to building personal, social and environmental responsibility through the power of shared experience.

Include a picnic lunch and a walk to the Tower to give each student a chance to reflect on their own character and imagine how they will make the world a bit better and more beautiful. Or order a catered lunch and reserve our classroom to continue your own team meeting.
CULINARY EXPERIENCES
The Outdoor Kitchen and Edible Garden offers opportunities for school programs centered on plants as sources of food, health and wellness. Students can learn about the food they eat, where it comes from and how to cook it as well as participate in engaging culinary lessons. Programs include cooking demonstrations and hands-on activities. A maximum of 50 students can be accommodated. Sample 3-hour programs include Plant Parts We Eat and Pizza Gardening. Program costs vary. To arrange a special culinary program, call 863-734-1221 or email education@boktower.org.

Forty lucky middle school students from Bok Academy were the first to attend a cooking class at Bok Tower Gardens’ new Outdoor Kitchen last spring. The students helped to select fresh produce from the Edible Garden and then turned those ingredients into delicious wood-fired pizzas under the direction of celebrated Chef David Bearl. The student cooking class was part of an ongoing educational/leadership partnership between Bok Tower Gardens and the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS). As an added bonus, Lake Wales High School Culinary Arts Students served as student mentors. Lake Wales High School Culinary Arts teacher wrote: “They had a blast and I know they had a big boost of confidence as they got to display leadership skills. I was so proud of their work today. I thought the event was fantastic and I look forward to helping with future events.”

LAKE WALES HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS:
“I learned how to persevere and lead others.”

LAKE WALES HIGH SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS/TEACHERS:
“This was so amazing. I loved every second of it.”

“Wonderful day, very well planned and executed. Gave all students an equal opportunity to achieve and be a better leader.”

PRAISE FOR BUILDING CHARACTER
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SELF-GUIDED FIELD TRIPS:
MEETING THE NEEDS OF STUDENTS K THROUGH COLLEGE

SELF-GUIDED EXPLORATIONS, KINDERGARTEN THROUGH COLLEGE
Teachers, scouts, church groups, and colleges are welcome to bring students for self-guided visits. Our staff will orient the group, then the group is welcome to tour the Gardens at their own pace. Activities must be approved by the Education Coordinator prior to the tour. K-5th Grade teachers are welcome to download the “Garden Explorations Packet” as an optional curriculum model at: boktowergardens.org/plan-your-visit/education/

PLAN YOUR OWN ADVENTURE
Give your students the key to the Garden. Bok Tower Gardens is a great place for your students to enjoy their independence and explore safely. Your class will work in teams to explore and collect information about the Gardens and Edward Bok before meeting at the Tower to share results and for a class picture. A guide will be on hand to orient and inspire your class and to facilitate a student discussion as they create a list of questions they want to explore in the gardens, to answer questions and provide feedback on their findings. Experience the excitement when students take charge of their learning in the classic and refined gardens.

GARDEN ADVENTURE GUIDE
The Garden Adventure Guide is a printed activity guide available for all our young visitors. It includes a map to the rubbing post tiles and Gardens, a word search and other activities to deepen families and children’s engagement in the natural world. Garden Adventure Guides are available at the Information Desk in the Visitor Center.
EARTH DAY FESTIVAL
Wednesday and Thursday April 19 and 20

Celebrate Earth Day at Bok Tower Gardens! Students participate in hands-on activities at booths exhibited by environmental organizations from around central Florida. Exhibitors may change year to year and have included themes such as recycling, protecting wildlife, water conservation, gardening, live animals, plant giveaways, and more!

Great for homeschool families! All group sizes welcome. Registration is open for 2017. This event sells out! Pre-registration is required.

PRAISE FOR THE EARTH DAY FESTIVAL 2016:
“This was a wonderful field trip. The kids absolutely loved it and it was very educational. Can't wait to do it again next year. Really was a perfect day!”

EXHIBITORS ALSO ENJOYED THE EXPERIENCE:
“This is one of my favorite events to table each year. We had 450 visitors on day one and 425 on day two. It is wonderful to interact with that many people, especially kids, in only two days.”

INTERNATIONAL CARILLON FESTIVAL
GOLDFISH CONCERT

Wednesday, March 8; 10 a.m.
Students are invited to a special presentation of carillon music just for them where they can meet the musicians and participate in fun activities and enjoy a special treat.
$5/student. Reservations required.

SERVICE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES
Service learning is a teaching and learning strategy that integrates meaningful community service with instruction and reflection to enrich the learning experience, teach civic responsibility, and strengthen communities.

Is your group or high school teen in need of Community Service Hours? Service learning projects at Bok Tower Gardens are available as a custom-created experience. Opportunities include:
• monitoring rare plant species,
• removing invasive plant species,
• monitoring bird and plant phenology stations, and
• participating in nature play with young children in the Children’s Garden.

Teachers can contact the Education Coordinator to begin the conversation for their student groups. Teens should apply as a volunteer to begin the process.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
<th>GRADE</th>
<th>DATE/TIME/DURATION</th>
<th>COST*</th>
<th>NUMBER OF STUDENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bok Adventure (Guided)</td>
<td>PK-5</td>
<td>Tues. – Sat. 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. 2 hours</td>
<td>$7/student 1 free adult/5 students</td>
<td>Minimum – 15 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Character (Guided)</td>
<td>K - Adult</td>
<td>Mon. – Fri. 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. 3 hours</td>
<td>$12/student 1 free adult/5 students</td>
<td>Minimum – 30 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Character + Low Ropes (Guided)</td>
<td>K - Adult</td>
<td>Mon. – Fri. 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. 3 hours</td>
<td>$15/student 1 free adult/5 students</td>
<td>Minimum – 30 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building Character + Tree Climbing (Guided)</td>
<td>1st - Adult</td>
<td>Mon. – Fri. 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. 3 hours</td>
<td>$35/student 1 free adult/5 students</td>
<td>Minimum – 30 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culinary</td>
<td>K - College</td>
<td>Mon. – Fri. 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.</td>
<td>Fee varies</td>
<td>Maximum – 60 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-Guided</td>
<td>K - College</td>
<td>Mon. – Sat. 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.</td>
<td>$5/student 1 free adult/5 students</td>
<td>Maximum – 100 students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Carillon Festival Goldfish</td>
<td>K – 5 but older are welcome</td>
<td>March 8 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.</td>
<td>$5/student 1 free adult/5 students</td>
<td>No class size limits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earth Day</td>
<td>K – 5 but older are welcome</td>
<td>April 19 and 20 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.</td>
<td>$7/student 1 free adult/5 students</td>
<td>No class size limits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
REGISTER YOUR CLASS FOR A PROGRAM:

1) Visit our field trip page online for updated information and to place an initial inquiry at: boktowergardens.org/plan-your-visit/education/ or call 863-734-1221 or email education@boktower.org

2) Call 863-734-1221 or email education@boktower.org, to reserve a date.

3) For guided tours, book at least 3 weeks in advance. For self-guided tours, book at least 1 week in advance.

4) Review and return the Field Trip Reservation Agreement with a $50 deposit. This must be returned within 3 weeks to keep your reservation unless otherwise specified.

5) Watch for your confirmation email. Call 863-734-1221 if you do not receive a confirmation email within 1 week.

6) Please notify us of any students with special needs when you return your Field Trip Reservation Agreement, so that we can better accommodate their needs.

7) Payment balance is due on or before the day of your field trip. We accept either cash, check, credit card or purchase order.

GET READY FOR YOUR VISIT TO BOK TOWER GARDENS:

- The confirmation email includes program policies, a chaperone letter, and pre and post-visit materials. Please review these documents and share with all participating teachers and chaperones.

- If you plan to picnic, please bring all lunches in coolers or boxes for easy transport. No refrigeration services are available.

- Additional adults pay $10 each.

- Call us ASAP at 863-734-1221, if there are any changes to your registration or if you need to cancel. Your deposit will not be refunded if cancellation is made less than 30 days in advance.

* Group rate cannot be combined with memberships and passes. All group reservations must be paid in one payment to qualify for the group rate. Payments are final and non-refundable.

NEED SOMETHING A BIT DIFFERENT FOR YOUR GROUP?
Call our Education Coordinator to discuss how we might be able to meet the needs of your group, 863-734-1221 or email education@boktower.org.
MISSION
TO INSPIRE A BETTER AND MORE BEAUTIFUL WORLD BY SHARING EDWARD BOK’S LEGACY.

CONTACT US:
Find our field trip information request form online at: boktowergardens.org/education/make-your-reservation/

For more details, call the Education Coordinator at 863-734-1221 or email education@boktower.org

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