ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Nuts About Nature!

2013 Spring & Summer Programs

Lil' Nature Kids (3-6 yrs)
Nature School for Homeschoolers (4-8 yrs)
Nature's Playground After School ($6^{1/2}$-8yrs)
Rockin' Robins Nature Camp (4-6 yrs)

PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION
Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland

Program Philosophy

Our programs provide children with authentic nature experiences. **We are outside, rain or shine!** All classes use engaging, experiential activities that combine nature themes with developmentally appropriate skills and concepts.

Children spend 2-3 hours exploring in small groups with teachers who introduce ecology, read stories, sing songs, make projects & engage in free play. Programs are designed with a framework but also remain flexible to accommodate the needs and interests of the group.

Is My Child Ready?

Since Nuts About Nature may be a child's first experience away from a parent, our teachers are skilled in dealing with mild separation anxiety. If your child is excited but feeling anxious, we can help them transition so the experience is a positive one!

PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION
Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland

www.PortlandParks.org
Charlie Hales, Mayor
Director Mike Abbaté

Frequently Asked Questions

"What's the cost?"

All Nuts About Nature preschool programs cost $14-15 per class, which means the total fee varies depending on the length of the session. The fee reflects our commitment to intense planning, small groups, individual attention and a highly experienced teaching staff.

"How do I register?"

Visit www.PortlandParks.org or call the Customer Service Center at 503-823-2525 and have course code handy. For scholarships or other questions call 503-823-3601.

"What's the withdrawl policy?"

Withdrawls made prior to 5 business days (classes) or 10 business days (summer camps) of the class start date will receive a refund minus a $10 administrative fee. Withdrawls made within 5 business days or after the 1st day of class will not be refunded.

"Can I help during one of the classes?"

Sure! All classes are "drop-off" style classes, but we love volunteers! Come and be a parent helper during a class! Spots are given on a first-come, first-served basis. Call 503-823-1149.

"Can I talk to someone about the program?"

Sure! We are happy to answer your specific questions. Contact the program's coordinator, Teacher Balsam, by phone at 503-823-1149 or email: Chrissy.Larson@portlandoregon.gov

Find the best program for YOUR child!

Lil' Nature Kids (3-6 yrs)

Lil' Nature Kids is a drop-off style program where experienced, enthusiastic teachers combine nature topics with developmentally appropriate activities. Children spend two hours in small groups and learn about local ecology through stories, songs, art, exploration and imaginary play. The primary goal is to give children positive outdoor experiences, rain or shine, with teachers who direct the learning based the children's interests. All classes are mixed age. Ratio of students to teachers is 4:1 or better.

Nature School! (4-8 yrs)

This class is perfect for half-day kindergarten students, homeschool students or the child who simply loves to learn about nature in-depth. Students join our highly trained teachers one day a week for three hours to learn about Pacific Northwest ecology using art, science, literature, exploration, games and play. We ask parents to volunteer once or twice each season. Curriculum is a balance of child-directed and teacher-directed inquiry. Ratio of students to teachers is 6:1 or better.

Nature's Playground ($6^{1/2}$-8 yrs)

Nature's Playground is a two hour, after-school program that tailors activities to K-2nd grade interests so school-aged students can continue to connect to nature. Learning is done through exploration, stealth games, crafts and play. Ratio of students to teacher is 6:1 or better.

Nuts About Nature programs are ALL about the children...

About the Teachers...

Created in 2008 by Teacher Balsam, Nuts About Nature strives to get children into the wild spaces of Portland to explore, play, and learn. Each teacher at Nuts About Nature is a professional environmental educator who has experience working with very young children. Together, they bring a wide educational background to the program such as music, yoga, tracking, ecology, and children's literature. All teachers are background checked and hold certification in CPR & First Aid or are Wilderness First Responders.

Praise for Nuts About Nature!

"Nature preschool is different than my other school because it's the same, but there's no... no... no ***preschool***!" (Do you mean there's no building?) "Yes! There's no ***preschool***!" -- a 4 year old Lil' Nature Kid

"Great pictures, GREAT camp! My kids were sooooo happy, dirty, tired, and excited for the next day each afternoon. They were so sad when the week was over." --mother of two sisters (4 and 5) in the Rockin' Robins program

To register visit www.PortlandParks.org
or call the reservation center at 503-823-2525.

Find us on Facebook! Browse photos from previous sessions and stay up to date on upcoming classes & events! www.facebook.com/NutsAboutNaturePDX

SPRING 2013PROGRAMS (Youth)

Nature School! (Ages 4-8)

#390165 Mondays @ Mt Tabor Park (Ages 4-7)
12:30-3:30pm --- Apr 1, 8, 15, 22 --- Fee $56

#390166 Tuesdays @ Hoyt Arboretum (Ages 5-8)
10:00am-1:00pm --- Apr 2, 9, 16, 23 --- Fee $56

#390168 Mondays @ Mt Tabor Park (Ages 4-7)
12:30-3:30pm --- Apr 29, May 6, 13, 20 --- Fee $56

#390170 Tuesdays @ Hoyt Arboretum (Ages 5-8)
10:00am-1:00pm --- Apr 30, May 7, 14, 21 --- Fee $56

Nature's Playground After-School (Ages 6$^{1/2}$ - 8)

#390167 Thursdays @ Mt Tabor Park
3:30-5:30pm --- Apr 4, 11, 18, 25 --- Fee $48

#390171 Thursdays @ Mt Tabor Park
3:30-5:30pm --- May 2, 9, 16, 23 --- Fee $48

To register call 503-823-2525 or visit www.PortlandParks.org

We also offer full-day summer camps for children ages 5-13!!!

Check our our 2013 Summer Nature Day Camp schedule online at

www.portlandonline.com/parks/ee

or call the EE Office @ 503-823-3601

"Thanks for a wonderful first preschool experience for our family. It's a great program!"
-Parent of a 4-yr old

SPRING 2013 PROGRAMS (Preschool)

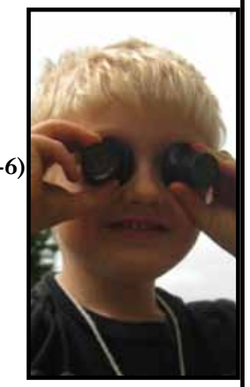
Lil' Nature Kids (Ages 3-6)

#390143 Mondays @ Mt Tabor Park (Ages 3-5)
9:30-11:30am --- Apr 1, 8, 15, 22 --- Fee $56

#390144 Tuesdays/Thursdays @ Mt Tabor Park (Ages 3-5)
9:30-11:30am -- Apr 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 18, 23, 25 -- Fee $112

#390145 Tuesdays @ Mt Tabor Park (Ages 4-6)
1:30-3:30pm --- Apr 2, 9, 16, 23 --- Fee $56

#402020 Wednesdays @ Hoyt Arboretum (Ages 3-5)
9:30-11:30am --- Apr 3, 10, 17, 24 --- Fee $56



#390146 Wednesdays @ Whitaker Ponds (Ages 3$^{1/2}$-6)
1:30-3:30pm --- Apr 3, 10, 17, 24 --- Fee $56

#390147 Fridays @ Sellwood Park (Ages 3-5)
9:30-11:30am --- Apr 5, 12, 19, 26 --- Fee $56

#390148 Fridays @ Sellwood Park (Ages 4-6)
1:30-3:30pm --- Apr 5, 12, 19, 26 --- Fee $56

#390149 Mondays @ Mt Tabor Park (Ages 3-5)
9:30-11:30am --- Apr 29, May 6, 13, 20 --- Fee $56

#390150 Tuesdays/Thursdays @ Mt Tabor Park (Ages 3-5)
9:30-11:30am --- Apr 30, May 2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23 --- Fee $112

#390151 Tuesdays @ Mt Tabor Park (Ages 4-6)
1:30-3:30pm --- Apr 30, May 7, 14, 21 --- Fee $56

#402021 Wednesdays @ Hoyt Arboretum (Ages 3-5)
9:30-11:30am --- Apr 3, 10, 17, 24 --- Fee $56

#390152 Wednesdays @ Whitaker Ponds (Ages 3$^{1/2}$-6)
1:30-3:30pm --- May 1, 8, 15, 22 --- Fee $56

#390153 Fridays @ Sellwood Riverfront Park (Ages 3-5)
9:30-11:30am --- May 3, 10, 17, 24 --- Fee $56

#390154 Fridays @ Sellwood Riverfront Park (Ages 4-6)
1:30-3:30pm --- May 3, 10, 17, 24 --- Fee $56

"My son loved the program! He was excited every day and talked endlessly about it!"
-Parent of a 3-yr old

Join us for a Ladybug Walk every Friday at 10am. Walks cost $3 ($4 as of July 1) and happen rain or shine. No pre-registration necessary. Just show up!

Find the schedule and meeting locations online: **www.portlandonline.com/parks/preschool**

SUMMER 2013 PROGRAMS (Preschool)

Lil' Nature Kids (Ages 3-6)

#402055 Monday Mornings @ Sellwood Riverfront Park (Ages 3-5)
9:30-11:30am --- Jun 17, 24, Jul 8, 15 --- Fee $60

#402061 Monday Afternoons @ Sellwood Park, Picnic Area "I" (Ages 4-6)
1:00-3:00pm --- Jun 17, 24, Jul 8, 15 --- Fee $60

#402068 Tuesdays/Thursday Mornings @ Mt Tabor Park (Ages 3-5)
9:30-11:30am -- Jun 18, 20, 25, 27, Jul 9, 11, 16, 18 -- Fee $120

#402067 Tuesday Afternoons @ Mt Tabor Park (Ages 4-6)
1:00-3:00pm --- Jun 18, 25, Jul 9, 16 -- Fee $60

#402069 Wednesday Mornings @ Hoyt Arboretum (Ages 3-5)
9:30-11:30am --- Jun 19, 26, Jul 10, 17 --- Fee $60

#402070 Wednesday Afternoons @ Hoyt Arboretum (Ages 4-6)
1:00-3:00pm --- Jun 19, 26, Jul 10, 17 --- Fee $60

#402062 Thursday Afternoons @ Mt Tabor Park (Ages 4-6)
1:00-3:00pm --- Jun 20, 27, Jul 11, 18 -- Fee $60

Rockin' Robins Nature Camp (Ages 4-6)

Camps run 9am-1pm, Monday-Thursday

Explore the forest through hands-on activities, nature games, art, stories, fantasy, and unstructured time in nature. Camp days include crafting, song time, stories, free exploration, hiking and a stop to eat our packed lunches. Let your child come and play! Camper to teacher ratio is 4:1 or better.

#401311	***July 22-25 @ Mt Tabor Park***	**Fee $145**
#401312	***July 29-Aug 1 @ Hoyt Arboretum***	**Fee $145**
#401313	***August 5-8 @ Mt Tabor Park***	**Fee $145**
#401314	***August 12-15 @ Hoyt Arboretum***	**Fee $145**
#401315	***August 19-22 @ Mt Tabor Park***	**Fee $145**

Partial scholarships are available. Please call the EE Office for infromation. 503-823-3601