

FAQ Little Rangers

Frequently asked questions. If your question is not addressed below, please reach out to forestdays@GreenwichBotanicalCenter.org

If my child has to go to the bathroom where will he go?

The children use the bathroom in the building before the session begins. If a child needs to go to the bathroom once in the forest, he/she is taken to a private spot. Wipes and toilet paper are provided.

Do I have to purchase an OAKI suit for my child? Although we recommend you purchase one for your child, it is not required. The beauty of the OAKI suit is that it can be used year-round to keep your child dry. Even when it is not raining the children like to go into the creek and can stay dry. The OAKI suits are roomy enough for the children to wear warm clothing underneath in the winter. You will receive a detailed gear list once your child has been registered for the program.

How many children attend Forest Days?

The maximum number of children in a Forest Days group is ten children with two teachers.

What does a typical afternoon look like?

Our morning summer program, 9:30 a.m. – Noon, follows a similar flow but without lunch.

- 12:15 Drop off and get geared up
- 12:30 Hike to the forest/lunch
- 12:45 Stump time
- 1:00-2:30 Time in the Forest: Children may engage in various activities such as water play, cook in the kitchen, build a rock tower, paint with watercolors, and observe birds and insects.
- 2:30-2:45 Closing Circle and prepare for dismissal

If my child gets sick/hurt or feels ill while in the forest what happens?

Both teachers are certified in First Aid and always carry cell phones on them. There is a first aid kit in the forest. If your child is not feeling well, one of the teachers will contact a parent to come and pick up the child early.

I want to learn more about the importance of children playing in the woods, can you recommend any resources?

Sure! Below is a list we have curated offering information from well-known experts on the topic:

[Why Kids Need to Spend Time in Nature](#) (Child Mind Institute)

[Running Free in Germany's Outdoor Preschools](#) (NY Times)

[The Perks of a Play-in-the-Mud Educational Philosophy](#) (The Atlantic)

[Can Climbing Trees Replace Preparing for Tests?](#) (NY Times)

BOOKS

Last Child in the Woods by Richard Louv

The Sense of Wonder by Rachel Carson

Forest Kindergartens The Cedarsong Way by Erin Kenny

Forest Days Handbook by Eliza Minnucci with Meghan Teachout

There's No Such Thing as Bad Weather by Linda Keson McGurk