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Green thumbs, magic and fairies at the Ian Potter Foundation Children's Garden

Autumn signals a time to get into the garden and start planting – and not just adults.

At the Ian Potter Foundation Children's Garden children will be encouraged to put on their **Budding Green Thumbs** and enjoy harvesting and caring for vegetables before relaxing and listening to stories or taking part in crafts.

Suitable for four to five year olds, **Budding Green Thumbs** is a four-week course which runs on Tuesdays or Thursdays throughout March from 10am to 11am. Cost is \$40 a child for the four sessions.

Shake, rattle and stroll

Perfect for toddlers, **Shake, rattle and stroll** is about song and movement in the gardens. The music will be inspired by plants and animals in the garden. The program will run on Thursday 23 and 30 April between either 10 – 10.45am or 11 – 11.45am. Adult participation is required and the cost is \$10 a child.

Getting to the heArt of plants

Drawing is a fun way to explore the intriguing world of plants. This three-week drawing-based program is for children and adults with a passion for plants and drawing – and you don't need to be an expert! The program runs on Sunday 3, 10 and 17 May from 10am to 12noon and participants are required to book for all three sessions. Adult participation is required. Cost for the full program is \$30 adult and child.

Fairies at the bottom of the garden

The Garden Fairy is making her way back to tell stories, sing and plant this May. Children are encouraged to wear their own fairy folk costumes. The program runs on Thursday 7, 14 and 21 May between 10am and 11am. Adult participation is required. Cost is \$15 a child.

Movin' and groovin'

Toddlers are encouraged to sing along to Hey dee ho as they bring percussion, music and movement to the Children's Garden during April and May. There is a five and ten-week program for children aged 18 months to two years. Adult participation is required. Cost is \$130 for all ten session and \$65 for five. Times and dates are available,

School holiday fun

If your child enjoys collecting treasures, **Garden treasure keepers** should be just the ticket. Children have the chance to explore some of the plant treasures in the Children's Garden before making their own plant treasure to take home. The program is running during the April school holidays from 10 to 11.30am. Cost is \$10 a child and adults must attend.

One for the parents - Nature, play and your child

Chris Joy is well known for her role as a member of the design team for The Ian Potter Foundation Children's Garden. **Nature, play and your child** is about exploring the valuable role that plants and the environment can play in your child's learning. Participants will find out how to make the most of gardens and other natural settings to stimulate your child's imagination, creativity, learning and enjoyment of the natural world. Cost is \$10 adult. The workshop is on Wednesday 29 April from 10.30am - 12.30pm.

Public information and bookings: Tel: (03) 9252 2429

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