



Habitats & Homes (3rd-5th)

90 minutes

From Deserts to the Redwood Forests, California's diverse plant communities host incredible fauna. During this 90-minute walk, students experience California's diverse native habitats, as well as the life they support. With native plants at the foundation of a healthy ecosystem, students will explore how plants are interconnected with all living beings. Students receive a journal to focus and promote engagement with their investigations.

The Santa Barbara Botanic Garden's tours are aligned with Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Educators facilitate inquiry-based explorations to engage students with the natural world and inspire curiosity with their surroundings. While the discoveries in each tour may vary, educators will guide discussions towards one of two main concepts to achieve the following objectives:

Key Tour Concepts:

- Organisms are connected through complex relationships and the food web. California native plants play a pivotal role in the survival of our native animal species.
- Plants and animals have internal and external parts that help them survive. Many California native plants have developed special adaptations that enable them to thrive here.

Tour Objectives:

- Students will engage in deep observation exercises to describe phenomena and patterns they are experiencing in nature.
- Students will conduct nature investigations to determine how plants interact with their environment.