

# Heaps of Seeds

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW



Photo: Bob Balmer



Photo: Kristen Skiles



Photo: Liz West



Photo: Alex Masters



Photo: George Thomas



Photo: Smythe Richbourg

## Objectives

### MLS for K-2:

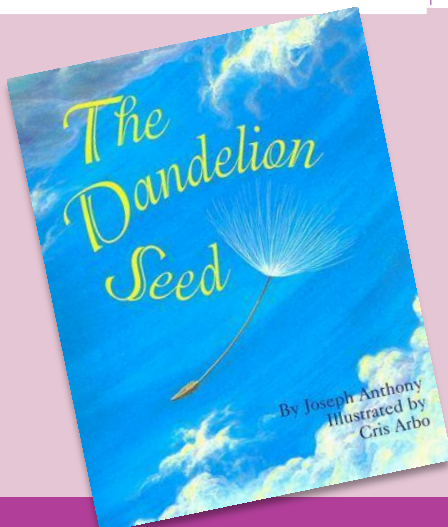
- PS1.A - Structure and Properties of Matter
- PS2.A - Forces and motion
- LS1.B - Growth and development of organisms
- LS1.C - Organization for matter and energy flow in ecosystems
- LS2.A - Interdependent relationships in ecosystems

For more information or to book this program, please visit <https://www.missouribotanicalgarden.org/learn-discover/students-teachers/school-programs-and-field-trips> or call the School Programs office at 314-577-5185.

## About the Program

Designed for students in Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade, the Heaps of Seeds program draws young students' attention to the tiny, wondrous world of seeds. Students will participate in a variety of activities, including:

- **Hearing The Dandelion Seed**, by Joseph Anthony and Chris Arbo, which follows the path of a single dandelion seed from its parent plant to a place where it can grow and flourish.
- **Address seed dispersal**, during which they will explore, with hands-on materials, the various methods by which seeds travel,
- **Create a seed collection for your classroom** during a guided walk through the northern gardens of the Missouri Botanical Garden,
- **Dissect a model bean** to learn about seed structure and find the tiny plant inside waiting to grow, and
- **Each student will plant pinto beans** to observe the development of the seed through germination in the classroom or at home.



## About the Book

Featuring the captivating prose of Joseph Arbo against the dazzling painted backdrops created by his wife, Cris Arbo, *The Dandelion Seed* brings a seed's journey from maturity to germination into familiar territory for young children. The personified dandelion seed worries and resists the journey it is about to take, but finally sails off on the wind to begin its new life. At times it feels lonely and frightened, but it learns that the world is a beautiful place. When it finds the perfect home, the dandelion seed produces a flower and seeds of its own, and passes on the wisdom it has gained from its own journey to its own seeds about to take flight. The story is simple, sweet and relatable, and provides a foundation for this program's exploration of seed travel and the elements necessary to encourage seeds to germinate once they have found their way to their new homes.

# This Program Features:

## The North End of the Garden

During this program, students will venture into the Garden in search of seeds along the path displayed below. This path will lead them near the Gladney Rose Garden, the Ottoman Garden, the Sensory Garden, the Bulb Gardens, Hosta gardens, the Central Axis and the Knolls.

Please note that you are welcome to pick up seeds elsewhere in the Garden after your program, but please do not enter planting beds or pick fruits from plants. All collected material must be found on the ground, and no material may be collected from conservatories.



## Other Places to Explore...

students to explore the following areas after your program:

1. **The Victorian District** - Visit Henry Shaw's country home and experience what life was like in St. Louis during the mid-1800s. Then enjoy the Kaiser Maze and the ornate Victorian gardens.
2. **The Conservatories** - Walk through a tropical rainforest in the Climatron™ conservatory and explore the interactive exhibits in the Brookings Interpretive Center. Explore different set-ups designed for plants from around the world in our other public greenhouses
3. **The Kemper Center** - This 8-acre complex includes 23 demonstration gardens, including a vegetable garden, a bird garden, native gardens, gardens for butterflies and even a garden for children!

## Logistics for Teachers

- ☼ Each Heaps of Seeds program lasts **90 minutes** and serves a maximum of **60 students**.
- ☼ Program fees include admission for up to six adults per 30 students. (Additional adults will be charged normal admission rates.) Please try to bring at least **one adult for every five students**.
- ☼ There are currently no lunch spaces provided on Garden grounds, and picnicking is prohibited. Please time your visit and mealtime accordingly.
- ☼ This program is only available between September and December. Availability is limited! Book early!



MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN

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