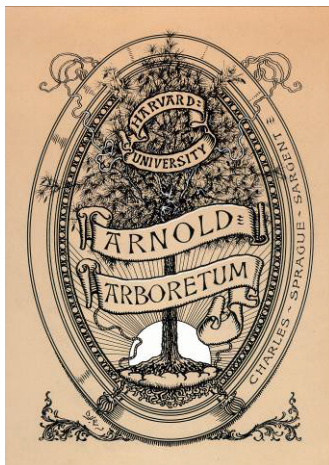


I G-2 FSE

**Records of Children's Education Programs - Field Study Experiences, 1982-: Guide**



**The Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University**

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## **I G-2 FSE**

### **Records of Children's Education Programs - Field Study Experiences, 1982-: Guide Archives of the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University 125 Arborway, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts**

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#### **Descriptive Summary**

**Repository:** Archives of the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University, Jamaica Plain, MA

**Call No.:** I G-2 FSE

**Location:** Archives

**Title:** Records of Children's Education Programs - Field Study Experiences, 1982-

**Date(s):** 1982-

**Creator:** Children's Education Programs

**Quantity:** 1.25 linear feet (3 Hollinger boxes)

**Language of material:** English

**Abstract:** In 1984, the Arnold Arboretum began offering educational programs focused on plant science to Boston area students for the purpose of improving science education in local schools. One of the initiatives designed and implemented by the education division was the Field Study Experience. Materials from this collection were obtained from the Education Department and various staff since the mid-1980s. The collection contains notes and correspondence regarding the creation of each program, guide and student/teacher materials, as well as evaluations and statistics. Dates span from 1982 to 2011 and is expected to gain more materials in the future as items are donated.

**Note:** Access to Finding Aid record in [HOLLIS](#).

**Preferred Citation:** Records of Children's Education Programs - Field Study Experiences, 1982-. Archives of the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University.

**Additional Material:** Photographs related to FSE programs are available in the collection [I G-2: Children's Education Programs](#) and in digital format. For access to these collections please [contact](#) library staff.

#### **Processing Information**

May 2015, Alexandra Holliday. Edited 2015, Stephanie Turnbull. Revised 2023, 2024, Larissa Glasser.

#### **Acquisition Information**

**Provenance:** This collection has been continuously transferred from the Arnold Arboretum Education Department to the Arnold Arboretum Archive's starting in 1984. Many items were donated in 2014 by Nancy Sablewoski, Manager of Children's Education, along with other Children's Education materials.

#### **Terms of Access**

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### **Historical Note/Biographical Note**

In 1984, the Arnold Arboretum began offering educational programs focused on plant science to Boston area schools for the purpose of improving science education. The Field Study Experience, one of the first programs developed by the education department at the Arnold Arboretum, was implemented the same year. The program, which is lead by a thoroughly trained volunteer guide, allows students from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> grade to engage with the “natural phenomena” in the Arboretum and participate in investigative inquiries related to botanical and horticultural concepts. Since 1984, five different Field Study Experiences have been developed, including *Hemlock Hill*, which addresses the elements of an ecosystem; *Plants in Autumn*, which discusses seed dispersal; *Flowers Changes*, which tells the story of the reproductive process of flowering plants; *Native Trees, Native People*, which examines how certain trees were used as tools for survival by Native Americans; and *Around the World With Trees*, which addresses the global exploration aspect of botany and horticulture.

As of the creation of this finding aid in May of 2015, Field Study Experiences continue to be offered in the fall and spring of each year. The experiences that are still being conducted are *Flowers Change*, *Plants in Autumn*, and *Native Trees and Native People*.

**See also:** <https://arboretum.harvard.edu/education/field-study-experiences/>



Image 1: Students from the Joseph Lee Elementary School during an FSE, May 1992.

## **Scope and Content**

The collection includes materials documenting the creation and development of the FSEs beginning in 1982 as well as preliminary and final drafts of guide training materials, letters and handouts provided for teachers and students before and after the program. The collection also includes research support documents used for the development of content. In addition, the collection contains program assessment materials including statistics regarding the number of programs conducted and the number of students in attendance as well as post-program evaluations submitted by teachers and students. The materials in this collection end in 2011. Additional materials will be added as the education staff continues to revise and develop the Field Study Experiences.

**Note:** Series III contains early guide material and resources for each specific Field Study Experience program. More recent materials are in Series VI: Guides Resource Binders, which have been processed to reflect the exact layout of materials as they were given to guides starting in 2001. As more binders of guide materials are donated to the archive, these materials will continuously be added to Series VI.

## **Arrangement**

The collection is arranged in 7 series.

**Series I:** Early Program Development, 1983-1984

**Series II:** General Guide Training Materials

**Series III:** Field Study Experiences

- **Subseries 1:** Hemlock Hill
- **Subseries 2:** Plants in Autumn
- **Subseries 3:** Around the World with Trees
- **Subseries 4:** Flowers Change
- **Subseries 5:** Native Trees, Native People

**Series IV:** Program Assessment and Evaluation

**Series V:** Administrative Materials

**Series VI:** Head Start

**Series VII:** Guide Resources Binders

## **Container List**

### **Box 1**

**Series I: Early Program Development, 1983-1984**

#### **Folders:**

1. Early Program Development, 1983-1984, 1 of 2
2. Early Program Development, 1983-1984, 2 of 2
3. FSE History (2013)

**Series II: Guide Training Materials**

#### **Folders:**

1. General Guide Training Materials, 1 of 2
2. General Guide Training Materials, 2 of 2
3. Guide Training Meetings (1998-2000)

**Series III: Field Study Experiences**

**Subseries 1: Hemlock Hill**

#### **Folders:**

1. Research Sources
2. Guide Materials, 1983
3. Guide Materials, 1991, 1994 and 1995
4. Teacher/Student Materials

### **Subseries 2: Plants in Autumn**

#### **Folders:**

1. Guide Materials, 1983, 1994 and 1998
2. Teacher/Student Materials

### **Subseries 3: Around the World With Trees**

#### **Folders:**

1. Research Sources, 1 of 3
2. Research Sources, 2 of 3
3. Research Sources, 3 of 3
4. Guide Materials, 1984, 1995,

### **Box 2**

5. Guide Materials, 2001
6. Teacher/Student Materials

### **Subseries 4: Flowers Change**

#### **Folders:**

1. Guide Materials, 1 of 2
2. Guide Materials, 2 of 2
3. Teacher/Student Materials

### **Subseries 5: Native Trees, Native People**

#### **Folders:**

1. Guide Materials, 1 of 2
2. Guide Materials, 2 of 2
3. Teacher/Student Materials

### **Series IV: Program Statistics and Evaluations**

#### **Folders:**

1. Program Statistics and Data 1983-1997
2. Program Statistics and Data 1998-2000
3. Guide Reflections and Evaluations
4. Student Evaluations
5. Teacher Evaluations

### **Series V: Administrative Materials**

#### **Folders:**

1. Fundraising and Grant Proposals
2. Budget
3. Annual Reports
4. Correspondence between guides and staff

### **Series VI: Head Start**

#### **Folders:**

1. Head Start Program

### **Box 3**

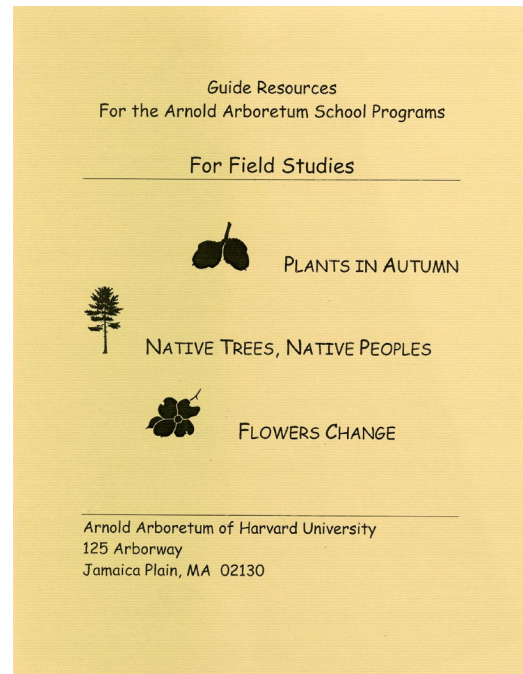


Image 2: Binder Cover, 2001

**Series VII: Guide Resources Binders**

**Folders:**

1. Guide Resources Binder, 2001
2. Guide Resources Binder, 2006
3. Guide Resources Binder, 2007-8
4. Guide Resources Binder, 2011