

ELSEE'S GREEN SCOUT PROGRAM

The Environmental Lab for Sustainability and Ecological Education's (ELSEE) Green Scouts program is an exciting and new opportunity for children, ages six to twelve years old, to learn and develop skills catered towards sustainable land management and ecological land use. Starting June 26th until August 11th, Green Scouts will engage in a variety of outdoor skills at the ELSEE site at Middlebrook Gardens 76 Race Street in San Jose. A child enrolled in the Green Scout program will have to complete several tasks and benchmarks in order to receive each badge. Once a child receives up to 10 badges, he or she will be deemed a ELS EE Green Scout. But the learning and exploration doesn't stop there! Green Scouts can earn up to 30 badges! Your child will be part of a network of students accessing the environmental and sustainable practices at an early age which they can use and cultivate for the rest of their lives whether it is for school, volunteering opportunities, services trips, or other higher education opportunities.

At California Native Garden Foundation we have recognized that many schools do not comprehensively teach students about climate change and its current and future impacts on the environment and humans around the world. Because it is largely absent from the elementary school curriculum, most children do not have any formal academic reasoning to put the vast amount of information and opinions into context, and they have no credible outlet to ask their own questions. Rather than relying on fear, we hope that our Green Scouts Programs will enable and empower children to realize how they can reduce the threats of global warming by up to 86%. They can learn tangible skills in science, technology, engineering, etc. that will assist with mitigation tactics and adaptation plans, as well as be able to use this STEM in their classes. We believe teaching about climate change should not be about preaching. We hope that children will ask their own questions about the world around them and provide them with tools to go out and find answers.

Badges:

1. Grow Trees
2. Plant Veggies
3. Keep Bees
4. Compost
5. Propagate Seedlings
6. Grow native plants
7. Recruit Friends
8. Build a rain garden
9. Harvest veggies
10. Aquaponics Farming
11. Collecting Seeds
12. Analyse Soils
13. Manage Stormwater
14. Grow ancestral plants
15. Build an erosion control garden

16. Harvest greywater
17. Manage stormwater
18. Make a compost toilet
19. Cook with biogas
20. Raise small animals
21. Sell veggies
22. Keep a journal
23. Learn about your local ecology
24. Do a research project
25. Collect seeds
26. Recycle plastics