



Little Birds Series Frequently Asked Questions

Is this class right for you and your child? Please read before registering your child. If you have lingering questions please reach out to Head of Caregiver and Child Programs, Laura Kennedy-Long at KennedyLongL@ExploreNature.org.

How long are the nature walks? Can my elderly parent take my child? Many Little Birds are accompanied by a grandparent. Please note that every class does feature a trail walk on our mulched (read unpaved and uneven) trails. Most of our nature walks stay within the understory loop at Irvine and are generally less than half a mile. Some weeks we will go a bit further and will let families know about that ahead of time. Some trails are up/down hill.

Should I bring a stroller? Generally speaking, our trails are not stroller-accessible. If your child is unable to walk the whole way, we encourage families to use a carrier or hip holder. In fact, we have some carriers available for use! But classes move slowly on the trails, knowing that many of our students are new walkers. On some hikes we do use our paved roads in which case a stroller can be helpful. We'll tell you that in advance!

My child does not meet the recommended age of 8 months to 3 years. Can we still sign up? Please email Laura at KennedyLongL@ExploreNature.org so she can explore this with you!

Can I bring my younger child/infant? Younger infants may accompany a caregiver with a paid older registrant so long as they are not yet 8 months old or immobile. Once a child becomes mobile they must be registered and pay the registration fee. Please note, this may not be possible mid-series if there is a wait list.

Can my older child who doesn't have school join class occasionally? Siblings can join in one day during days like this, provided that advance approval is given by the Head of Caregiver and Child Programs. Please note we may not be able to approve all requests due to limited space and materials.

Can more than one caregiver accompany a child? Yes! We love meeting our Little Birds' big birds! And it's totally ok if that caregiver switches!

What if it rains or is cold? Will class be cancelled? Different weather is part of the fun and experience of being in nature! We may alter our flow or initial meeting place if it is too wet or cold, but typically, we head out on the trails so long as there is no thunder or extreme gusts! Please ensure your Little Bird and their caregiver are dressed for the weather. Winter classes typically start indoors.

What if we have to miss a class? If a family needs to miss a class due to illness, travel, or any other reason, we may possibly provide a make up class that same week depending on the class load and provided we have 2 business days notice.

Class Series	Permitted # Make-Ups
Fall and Spring Week Day Semester Classes	3 make-ups
Winter Mini-Mesters	2 make-ups
Saturday Mini-mesters	2 make-ups- Please note the only make-up opportunities are typically during the week.