### THE 2014 – 2015 FAIRCHILD CHALLENGE

**CHALLENGES AT A GLANCE: ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenges</th>
<th>Due date</th>
<th>Max. number of points</th>
<th>Max. number of entries</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1 Design: Baynanza</strong></td>
<td>Wed., Oct. 8</td>
<td>100 (50/entry)</td>
<td>2 entries</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For individual students</td>
<td></td>
<td>100 (50/entry)</td>
<td>2 entries</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A: Grades Pre-K – 1 (Bookmark)</td>
<td></td>
<td>100 (50/entry)</td>
<td>2 entries</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B: Grades 2 – 3 (Poster)</td>
<td></td>
<td>100 (50/entry)</td>
<td>2 entries</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C: Grades 4 – 5 (T-shirt)</td>
<td></td>
<td>100 (50/entry)</td>
<td>2 entries</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Educator Challenge</strong></td>
<td>Wed., Oct. 29</td>
<td>25 bonus points</td>
<td>1 entry</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2 Mask: Plant Partners</strong></td>
<td>Wed., Nov. 12</td>
<td>100 (50/entry)</td>
<td>2 entries</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For individual students or groups</td>
<td></td>
<td>100 (50/entry)</td>
<td>2 entries</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A: Grades Pre-K – 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>100 (50/entry)</td>
<td>2 entries</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>100 (50/entry)</td>
<td>2 entries</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>C: Grades 4 – 5</td>
<td></td>
<td>100 (50/entry)</td>
<td>2 entries</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Performance Video</strong></td>
<td>Wed., Dec. 10</td>
<td>25 bonus points</td>
<td>1 entry</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>3 Art: Plant Life Cycles</strong></td>
<td>Wed., Dec. 10</td>
<td>100 (50/entry)</td>
<td>2 entries</td>
<td>12</td>
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<tr>
<td>For individual students</td>
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<td>100 (50/entry)</td>
<td>2 entries</td>
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<tr>
<td>A: Grades Pre-K – 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>100 (50/entry)</td>
<td>2 entries</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B: Grades 2 – 3</td>
<td></td>
<td>100 (50/entry)</td>
<td>2 entries</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C: Grades 4 – 5</td>
<td></td>
<td>100 (50/entry)</td>
<td>2 entries</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>YouthCaN – Fri., Feb. 6</strong></td>
<td>Register by Fri., Jan. 16</td>
<td>50 bonus points</td>
<td>3 groups</td>
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<td><strong>4 Writing: Adventures of a Seed</strong></td>
<td>Wed., Feb. 18</td>
<td>100 (50/entry)</td>
<td>2 entries</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For individual students</td>
<td></td>
<td>100 (50/entry)</td>
<td>2 entries</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A: Grades K – 1 (Haiku)</td>
<td></td>
<td>100 (50/entry)</td>
<td>2 entries</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B: Grades 2 – 3 (Poem)</td>
<td></td>
<td>100 (50/entry)</td>
<td>2 entries</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C: Grades 4 – 5 (Short story)</td>
<td></td>
<td>100 (50/entry)</td>
<td>2 entries</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5 Environmental Action</strong></td>
<td>Wed., April 22</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>1 entry</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For groups</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6 School Garden</strong></td>
<td>Wed., May 6</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>1 entry</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For groups</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>18</td>
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**AWARDS and PRIZES**

- The 2014-2015 Fairchild Challenge Awards Ceremony for Elementary Schools will take place on Wednesday, May 27, 2015 from 5:00 to 7:00 pm.
- All schools earning more than 1,000 points will be presented with The Fairchild Challenge Award.
- Each school that receives The Fairchild Challenge Award for five or ten consecutive years will become a Fairchild Challenge School of Excellence.
- The top-scoring schools will receive cash prizes up to $1,000 to support their schools’ environmental programs.
- Top-placing students will receive Fairchild Challenge medals and/or certificates. Top-scoring group entries will receive medals and/or trophies.
- Student and teacher Environmental Role Models nominated by their peers will be recognized at the Awards Ceremony.
- All participating schools receive a limited quantity of four-person family passes to Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden to distribute to actively participating students and teachers.
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Welcome to The 2014-2015 Fairchild Challenge.

The Fairchild Challenge is an award winning, interdisciplinary, environmental science competition designed to engage students of diverse interests, abilities, talents and backgrounds to explore the natural world. The program has been recognized as a benchmark for exceptional STEM education and for empowering PreK-12th grade students to become the next generation of scientists, researchers, educated voters, policy makers, and environmentally-minded citizens.

The Fairchild Challenge in practice
The Fairchild Challenge takes place over the course of the school year and offers an annual menu of activities (called challenges) for individual students and groups. Schools can participate in any number of the annual challenges. Best entries selected by the schools and submitted to Fairchild are evaluated by panels of independent judges and awarded points based on the judge’s scores. Schools surpassing the goal of 1,000 points win The Fairchild Challenge Award; the top-scoring schools and students are given special recognition. Mindful of teachers’ workloads, The Fairchild Challenge dovetails with public school curricula and is aligned with the state and national academic standards.

Fairchild is committed to making this program accessible to all interested students in the region, regardless of their schools’ resources. The Fairchild Challenge encourages school participation with incentives such as grants for school gardens, transportation subsidies, seeds or native plants, specialized workshops, professional development seminars, and other resources. Schools requiring additional assistance can contact The Fairchild Challenge staff for assistance or to request a visit to your school to explain the program in detail.

What is your goal?
Your goal is to collaborate, explore and have FUN while earning more than 1,000 points for your school to receive The 2014-2015 Fairchild Challenge Award which will be presented on Wednesday, May 27, 2015 at Fairchild. Schools receiving The Fairchild Challenge Award for five or ten consecutive years become a Fairchild Challenge School of Excellence and receive a banner to hang proudly at their school. Additionally, the 16 top-scoring schools will be awarded cash prizes up to $1,000 to support environmental initiatives at their school.

What is our goal?
Our goal is to offer students a clear educational pathway that encourages environmental stewardship, develops leadership in environmental science and diversifies the scientific workforce.

Fairchild Challenge Partner Program: The Fairchild Challenge has become a model beyond South Florida, influencing programs nationally and internationally. The success of the program in Miami has spurred Fairchild to share it as a replicable model with other regions, both within the U.S. and abroad. Currently, we have programs in Central Florida, The Florida Keys, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Tennessee, Utah, Mexico, Colombia and Peru.
Registration: All schools are required to submit one registration form each year providing contact information for teachers who are interested in participating (ideally four teachers from different disciplines). The 2014-2015 registration form is available online at www.fairchildchallenge.org.

Lead Teacher: All schools are required to list one person as the Lead Teacher on the registration form. This person will be the main point of contact for all communications related to The Fairchild Challenge, ensuring that all participating teachers are receiving information about deadlines and events.

Challenge entry forms: Each registered school must submit a completed entry form with each challenge (per section A/B/C where applicable) submitted during the year. Challenge entry forms are available online at www.fairchildchallenge.org.

Student work: Challenges 1, 3 and 4 must be completed by individual students only; Challenge 2 may be completed by one individual or a group of students; Challenges 5 and 6 are group projects and must be student-driven. Each entry must be clearly marked with the student(s) and school names. Entries must follow the specified requirements in this booklet or they will be penalized or disqualified.

Deadlines: Entries must be received by the published deadlines; due dates are strictly enforced and late entries will be penalized. All entries may be mailed to the Garden (Attn: Elementary Fairchild Challenge) or dropped off at either Garden entrance during regular hours (seven days a week, from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.). Challenges 1, 4, 5 and 6 may be dropped off at participating libraries; please see the library drop-off policy available at www.fairchildchallenge.org for additional information. No email submission of entries is allowed.

Earning points: Schools should encourage as many students as possible to attempt each of the challenges. Each challenge has a maximum number of student entries that may be submitted to Fairchild for judging; additional entries will not be accepted. Schools should submit the maximum number in order to earn the most points. Schools may submit fewer than the maximum number of entries allowed per challenge; however, total points will be lower.

Judges: Independent judges score entries using evaluation sheets available at www.fairchildchallenge.org that reflect the evaluation criteria listed for each challenge. All results are final; completed judges’ evaluation sheets will not be shared.

Scores: Schools receive their scores by email following participation in various challenges. We do not release other schools’ scores or school rankings during the year. Scores for the last two challenges and overall results are not announced until the Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, May 27, 2015.

School recognition: All schools that participate in The Fairchild Challenge are recognized at the Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, May 27, 2015. Schools that accrue more than 1,000 points receive The Fairchild Challenge Award. The 16 top-scoring schools are awarded up to $1,000 to support their environmental programs. Schools receiving The Fairchild Challenge Award for five or ten consecutive years become a Fairchild Challenge School of Excellence.

Student and teacher recognition: Participation certificates for each challenge will be sent to teachers for distribution to all participating students. Top-placing students and Special Merit winners for each challenge will be recognized at the Awards Ceremony. Each school may select one student and one teacher Environmental Role Model to be recognized at the Awards Ceremony. Required application will be made available online in April.

Student materials: All entries (except Challenge 2 which must be picked up by December 17) will be on display at the Awards Ceremony on May 27, 2015 and can be picked up at the end of the event. All entries not claimed by June 5, 2015 will become the property of Fairchild. Select entries may be used by The Fairchild Challenge for fundraising or other purposes. When submitting an entry you must notify us in writing if you do not agree to these terms. Fairchild is not responsible for any materials lost, stolen or damaged.

Schools consent to Fairchild’s unrestricted use of student work and participants’ likenesses, including photographs and audio/visual recordings made of participants and/or their entries, at Fairchild or elsewhere. Student entries may be exhibited and/or published by Fairchild. Fairchild must be notified in writing of any exceptions.
A copy of this booklet and all required forms are available for download on our website at www.fairchildchallenge.org.

Please refer to monthly e-newsletters for important information about the program. If you or any other teachers at your school are not receiving our emails, please contact us immediately at challengepk-5@fairchildgarden.org.

Encourage as many teachers as possible to participate in the program and attempt the various challenges. Notify all faculty and administrators of your participation in The Fairchild Challenge as soon as you register.

Fairchild Challenge staff are available to present program details to members of your school community. Contact us at challengepk-5@fairchildgarden.org to schedule a visit.

Closely follow specific requirements listed under each challenge description in this booklet. Entries that do not meet the specified requirements may be penalized or disqualified. Also take into consideration the evaluation criteria listed for each challenge. Evaluation sheets can be downloaded from our website. Please note that evaluation sheets do not include ALL requirements; refer to the challenge descriptions in this booklet for a complete list.

Please submit entries in a manner that reflects environmental awareness. For example, avoid plastic whenever possible. Also please ensure that all submitted entries are made of materials that have been properly prepared and will not easily fall apart.


Communicate clearly to parents at your school about your participation in The Fairchild Challenge, as well as upcoming events, important dates, student scores, and awards. Parent letters will be emailed to teachers for distribution prior to public events.

How-to guides and additional resources to help you complete the challenges are available on our website: www.fairchildchallenge.org. You can also visit our website for detailed information on how each challenge is aligned with state and national academic standards.

Take advantage of the many opportunities and resources that Fairchild has to offer, including free busing for Title 1 schools, living plant collections, electronic resources and more. For more information, contact challengepk-5@fairchildgarden.org or visit www.fairchildgarden.org.

Fairchild’s Field Studies programs can provide additional content to support your Fairchild Challenge activities. For more information, see pg. 19 or visit www.fairchildgarden.org/school-and-youth.

Fairchild offers teacher professional development workshops throughout the year. For more information, see pg. 19 or visit our website at www.fairchildgarden.org/teachers.

Teachers actively participating in The Fairchild Challenge for Elementary Schools can register to receive Master Plan Points (MPP) through M-DCPS. The requirements to receive the MPP are: 1) attend the Teachers’ Information Brunch, 2) participate in at least 2 of the 6 challenges during the school year and 3) attend the Teachers’ Celebration Brunch. To verify teacher participation in a challenge, teacher’s name, discipline and contact information must be listed on the entry form accompanying the entries.

All participating schools receive a limited quantity of four-person family passes to Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden to distribute to actively participating students and teachers. For more information and to request passes, please contact us at challengepk-5@fairchildgarden.org. Passes will only be sent to schools that have participated in at least one challenge.
### IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS

FOR THE 2014-2015 FAIRCHILD CHALLENGE FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, September 6</td>
<td>Teachers’ Information Brunch</td>
<td>10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, October 8</td>
<td>Challenge 1: Design entries due</td>
<td>by 5:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, October 10</td>
<td>Garden Grant applications due</td>
<td>by 5:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, October 22</td>
<td>Art Workshop opportunity</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, October 23</td>
<td>Art Workshop opportunity</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, October 29</td>
<td>Educator Design due</td>
<td>by 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, November 12</td>
<td>Challenge 2: Mask entries due</td>
<td>by 5:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, December 10</td>
<td>Performance Video due</td>
<td>by 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, December 10</td>
<td>Challenge 3: Art entries due</td>
<td>by 5:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, December 13</td>
<td>Parade of Plant Partners and Performances</td>
<td>2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, December 17</td>
<td>Final date for mask pick-up</td>
<td>by 5:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, January 24</td>
<td>Fairchild Challenge Art Show</td>
<td>9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, February 6</td>
<td>YouthCaN Conference</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, February 18</td>
<td>Challenge 4: Writing entries due</td>
<td>by 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, April 22</td>
<td>Challenge 5: Environmental Action entries due</td>
<td>by 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, May 2</td>
<td>Teachers’ Celebration Brunch</td>
<td>10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, May 6</td>
<td>Challenge 6: School Garden entries due</td>
<td>by 5:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, May 27</td>
<td>Awards Ceremony for Elementary Schools</td>
<td>5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, June 5</td>
<td>Final date for entry pick-up</td>
<td>by 5:00 p.m.</td>
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**SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES**

**EDUCATOR CHALLENGE**

**ADOPT-A-TREE DESIGN**
For individuals or groups; 25 bonus points

Since 2001, Adopt-A-Tree has been working to foster a heightened awareness of the value of trees in Miami-Dade County. Adopt-A-Tree is hosted by the Miami-Dade County Regulatory and Economic Resources Department, Division of Environmental Resources Management (RER-DERM), a Fairchild Challenge partner. For more information on this office and on the event, visit www.miamidade.gov/environment.

**YOUR CHALLENGE:** Design an image with a compelling message for the Adopt-a-Tree initiative encouraging Floridians to plant native trees and shrubs.
- Must be an original, hand-rendered or computer-generated design
- Use one solid color (no gradation of color allowed); must be done in colored pencils, pens, or fine-point markers only (no crayons or paints); must be suitable for screen printing
- Must be drawn in landscape format on a sheet of 8.5 X 11 inch white, unlined paper
- Include a slogan (15 words or less) about how trees benefit the environment
- Include the words “Adopt-A-Tree” and make a reference to the year 2015 in your design

**ENTRY SUBMISSION:** Wednesday, October 29 by 5:00 p.m.
(a) Educator Challenge entry form*
(b) Maximum one entry per school
* Available at www.fairchildchallenge.org

**EVALUATION CRITERIA:** For a detailed list of evaluation criteria for this challenge, visit www.fairchildchallenge.org.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** The winning entry will be printed on a direct mail flyer, which will be sent to more than 30,000 residents in Miami-Dade County. Challenge winners may be asked to participate in promotional events for Adopt-A-Tree.

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**PERFORMANCE VIDEO**
For groups; 25 bonus points

**YOUR CHALLENGE:** Create a video of a song, dance or skit that sends an environmental message. Groups will be invited to perform at the Parade of Plant Partners on Saturday, December 13 and videos will be showcased at Fairchild Challenge events throughout the year. Videos may be featured on Fairchild’s website.

- Video must be 5 minutes or less
- Video must be submitted electronically via Google Docs or Dropbox only (create a free account, upload your video, and send us the link to your file); video submissions will not be accepted via email
- Must be compatible with the latest version of Windows Media Player or QuickTime
- Performances will not be judged; 25 bonus points will be awarded for all submissions

**VIDEO SUBMISSION:** Wednesday, December 10 by 5:00 p.m.
(a) Email challengepk-5@fairchildgarden.org with link to video (no entry form required)
(b) Maximum one video submission per school

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2013-2014 Fairchild Challenge winning Educator Design; created by Ana Allmon, Frank C. Martin K-8

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2013-2014 Fairchild Challenge winning Educator Design; created by Ana Allmon, Frank C. Martin K-8
**REQUIREMENTS**  
**Challenges for Elementary Schools**

**CHALLENGE 1**  
**DESIGN: BAYNANZA – BISCAYNE BAY CLEANUP DAY**  
*For individuals; maximum points: 100 (50 per entry)*

**YOUR CHALLENGE:** Biscayne Bay is one of South Florida’s most important natural resources. In an effort to raise awareness about the need to protect Biscayne Bay, Miami-Dade County launched Baynanza, a series of springtime events, culminating with Biscayne Bay Cleanup Day. Students will research information about Biscayne Bay and the Biscayne Bay Cleanup Day, and will create a design and slogan illustrating either a natural feature or a use of Biscayne Bay. The winning designs will be printed on a bookmark (grades Pre-K to 1), a poster (grades 2-3), and a T-shirt (grades 4-5) that will be distributed to thousands of Baynanza participants county-wide during its 33rd anniversary in April 2015.

**Note:** Baynanza is hosted by the Miami-Dade County Regulatory and Economic Resources Department, Division of Environmental Resources Management (RER - DERM), a Fairchild Challenge partner. For more information on this office and on the event, visit www.miamidade.gov/environment.

**ENTRY SUBMISSION:** Wednesday, October 8 by 5:00 p.m.  
Include the following materials:  
(a) One challenge entry form per section A/B/C (available at www.fairchildchallenge.org)  
(b) Maximum six entries per school (two for 1A, two for 1B, two for 1C)

**EVALUATION CRITERIA:** A panel of judges will award points based on artistry, creativity, visual appeal, and relevance to theme. Refer to the Challenge 1 evaluation sheets on our website for more details.

**ACADEMIC STANDARDS:** Visit www.fairchildchallenge.org

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Entries will be displayed at the Awards Ceremony on May 27, 2015 and may be collected immediately afterwards. Entries not collected by June 5, 2015 will become the property of Fairchild. Select entries may be used by The Fairchild Challenge for fundraising or other purposes.

Challenge winners may be asked to participate in promotional events for Baynanza, such as radio or TV interviews and the award presentation during the Baynanza Biscayne Bay Cleanup Day.

**Challenge 1A – For individual students, Grades Pre-K to 1 (Bookmark)**

| ✅ ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: |
|-----------------------|---|
| (a) All artwork must be an original hand-rendered or computer-generated design created by the student; avoid similarities to previous years’ Baynanza designs |
| (b) Design must be: 5 x 12 inches on white unlined paper; in full color (no color gradation allowed); done in colored pencils, pens, fine-point markers, or paints (no crayons) |
| (c) Include the words “Biscayne Bay Cleanup Day” and/or “Baynanza” and make reference to the year (2015 or ’15) in your design |
| (d) All artwork must include the following information: student’s name, grade and school on the back of the piece |
Challenge 1A – For individual students, Grades Pre-K to 1 (Bookmark)

- All artwork must be an original hand-rendered or computer-generated design created by the student; avoid similarities to previous years’ Baynanza designs
- Design must be: 12 x 18 inches, vertical orientation, on white unlined paper; in full color (no color gradation allowed); done in colored pencils, pens, fine-point markers, or paints (no crayons)
- Include the words “Biscayne Bay Cleanup Day” and/or “Baynanza” and make reference to the year (2015 or ’15) in your design
- Include a brief slogan (7 words or less) that raises awareness about what is needed to protect Biscayne Bay
- All artwork must include the following information: student’s name, grade and school on the back of the piece

Challenge 1B – For individual students, Grades 2 to 3 (Poster)

- All artwork must be an original hand-rendered design created by the student; avoid similarities to previous years’ Baynanza designs
- Design must be: 8 x 10 inches on a sheet of 8.5 x 11 inches white unlined paper; in full color (no color gradation allowed); done in colored pencils, pens or fine-point markers only (no crayons, water color or paints)
- Include the words “Biscayne Bay Cleanup Day” and/or “Baynanza” and make reference to the year (2015 or ’15) in your design
- Include a brief slogan (7 words or less) that raises awareness about what is needed to protect Biscayne Bay
- All artwork must include the following information: student’s name, grade and school on the back of the piece

Challenge 1C – For individual students, Grades 4 to 5 (T-shirt)

- All artwork must be an original hand-rendered design created by the student; avoid similarities to previous years’ Baynanza designs
- Design must be: 8 x 10 inches on a sheet of 8.5 x 11 inches white unlined paper; in full color (no color gradation allowed); done in colored pencils, pens or fine-point markers only (no crayons, water color or paints)
- Include the words “Biscayne Bay Cleanup Day” and/or “Baynanza” and make reference to the year (2015 or ’15) in your design
- Include a brief slogan (7 words or less) that raises awareness about what is needed to protect Biscayne Bay
- All artwork must include the following information: student’s name, grade and school on the back of the piece

Photo from the Baynanza website: http://www.miamidade.gov/environment/baynanza.asp
**CHALLENGE 2**  
**MASK: PLANT PARTNERS**  
**For individuals or groups; maximum points: 100 (50 per entry)**

**YOUR CHALLENGE:** Plants and animals work together in many ways throughout their life cycles, and neither could survive without the other. Not only do animals help in the process of pollination, but many plants need animals to help disperse their seeds. Research a plant-animal relationship. Create a mask of your plant partner, with an emphasis on natural and recycled materials. Include a written description of at least one way that your plant partner assists in the life cycle of the plant.

**ENTRY SUBMISSION:** Wednesday, November 12 by 5:00 p.m.  
Include the following materials:  
(a) One challenge entry form per section A/B/C (available at www.fairchildchallenge.org)  
(b) Maximum six entries (two for 2A, two for 2B, two for 2C)

**Note:** No library drop-off allowed for Challenge 2

**EVALUATION CRITERIA:** A panel of judges will award points based on creativity, resources used, accuracy of information, and relevance to theme. Refer to the Challenge 2 evaluation sheets on our website for more details.

**ACADEMIC STANDARDS:** Visit www.fairchildchallenge.org

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** All masks must be picked up by December 17; any unclaimed entries will become the property of Fairchild. Select entries may be used by The Fairchild Challenge for fundraising or other purposes.

**SPECIAL EVENT (optional):** Students are invited to model their masks at the Parade of Plant Partners on Saturday, December 13 at Fairchild. Participating schools will receive 25 bonus points; teacher must be present. Contact us at challengepk-5@fairchildgarden.org for more information and to register.

**CHALLENGE 2A – For individual students or groups, Grades Pre-K to 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>✓ ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☐ Mask must be no larger than 2’h x 2’l x 1’w, wearable, and created with an emphasis on natural and recycled materials. All materials should be completely dry and clean, and mask must be properly assembled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ All masks must be original and designed by an individual or group of students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Include a description written by the student, 100 words or less, for each mask with the following information: the common name of both partners and at least one way they interact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☐ Mask and description should be submitted in the same package; include the student’s name, grade, and school on all materials</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**CHALLENGE 2B – For individual students or groups, Grades 2 & 3**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<td>Mask must be no larger than 2’h x 2’l x 1’w, wearable, and created with an emphasis on natural and recycled materials. All materials should be completely dry and clean, and mask must be properly assembled.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All masks must be original and designed by an individual or group of students.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Include a description written by the student, 100 words or less, for each mask with the following information: the <strong>common name</strong> of both partners, at least <strong>one way they interact</strong>, and the <strong>stage of the plant life cycle</strong> in which they interact.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mask and description should be submitted in the same package; include the student’s name, grade, and school on all materials.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CHALLENGE 2C – For individual students or groups, Grades 4 & 5**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mask must be no larger than 2’h x 2’l x 1’w, wearable, and created with an emphasis on natural and recycled materials. All materials should be completely dry and clean, and mask must be properly assembled.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All masks must be original and designed by an individual or group of students.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Include a description written by the student, 100 words or less, for each mask with the following information: the <strong>common and scientific names</strong> of both partners, at least <strong>one way they interact</strong>, and the <strong>stage of the plant life cycle</strong> in which they interact.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mask and description should be submitted in the same package; include the student’s name, grade, and school on all materials.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHALLENGE 3
ART: PLANT LIFE CYCLES
For individuals; maximum points: 100 (50 per entry)

YOUR CHALLENGE: Have you ever seen a giant tree and wondered how it got so big? All herbs, flowers, shrubs and trees grow from one small seed. From the seed, leaves and roots develop and begin to grow. As the plant matures, it produces flowers which, once pollinated, turn into fruits that contain more seeds, thus completing the life cycle. Choose one plant to research, and create a drawing that depicts the different stages of its life cycle.

Entry Submission: Wednesday, December 10 by 5:00 p.m.
Include the following materials:
(a) One challenge entry form per section A/B/C (available at www.fairchildchallenge.org)
(b) Maximum six entries (two for 3A, two for 3B, two for 3C)
Note: No library drop-off allowed for Challenge 3

EVALUATION CRITERIA: A panel of judges will award points based on creativity, observation skills, artistry and relevance to the theme. Refer to the Challenge 3 evaluation sheets on our website for more details.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS: Visit www.fairchildchallenge.org

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Entries will be displayed at the Awards Ceremony on May 27, 2015 and may be collected immediately afterwards. Entries not collected by June 5, 2015 will become the property of Fairchild. Select entries may be used by The Fairchild Challenge for fundraising or other purposes.

SPECIAL EVENTS (optional): Fairchild will host an Art Workshop on Wednesday, October 22 and Thursday, October 23 and an Art Show on Saturday, January 24 for students participating in Challenge 3. For more information, see pg. 13.

CHALLENGE 3A – For individual students, Grades Pre-K to 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students must use colored pencils or crayons to create one drawing of the stages of a plant’s life cycle; label at least 2 stages of the life cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All artwork must be an original design created by the student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entries must be one-dimensional, unframed and unmounted, and 12 x 18 inches or less</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All artwork must include the following information on the back of the piece: the common name of the plant and student’s name, grade and school</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CHALLENGE 3B – For individual students, Grades 2 & 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students must use colored pencils or crayons to create one drawing of the stages of a plant’s life cycle; label at least 3 stages of the life cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All artwork must be an original design created by the student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entries must be one-dimensional, unframed and unmounted, and 12 x 18 inches or less</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All artwork must include the following information on the back of the piece: the common name of the plant and student’s name, grade and school</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**CHALLENGE 3C – For individual students, Grades 4 & 5**

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:**

- Students must use colored pencils or crayons to create one drawing of the stages of a plant’s life cycle; label all stages of the life cycle.
- All artwork must be an original design created by the student.
- Entries must be one-dimensional, unframed and unmounted, and 12 x 18 inches or less.
- All artwork must include the following information on the back of the piece: the common and scientific name of the plant and student’s name, grade and school.

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**STUDENT ART WORKSHOP**

**Wednesday, October 22 and Thursday, October 23 at Fairchild**

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Fairchild will host a free workshop for students participating in this year’s Challenge 3: Art. Experienced artist mentors will guide students in how to create art depicting plants in different stages of their life cycle. **Registration is required** and all students must be accompanied by a teacher; limited space available. Buses available upon request for Title 1 schools. Contact challengepk-5@fairchildgarden.org for more information.

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**STUDENT ART SHOW**

**Saturday, January 24 at Fairchild’s International Chocolate Festival**

9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Fairchild will host a reception showcasing all entries submitted for Challenge 3: Art. Teachers, students, family and community members are invited to enjoy and celebrate the artwork created by participating students. No bonus points will be awarded for attendance. **Registration is not required**; admission to the Garden is free for this event. For more information, contact challengepk-5@fairchildgarden.org.
CHALLENGE 4
WRITING: ADVENTURES OF A SEED
For individuals; maximum points: 100 (50 per entry)

YOUR CHALLENGE: Imagine what it takes for one seed to grow into a giant tree! Some seeds may hitchhike on an animal’s fur, or float on the wind or water to find a new home. Once they arrive, seeds need water, sunlight and the right conditions to grow. Research how seeds travel and grow, and then use your imagination to write a haiku (grades K-1), poem (grades 2-3) or short story (grades 4-5) narrating the adventures of a seed. Entries may be written in multiple languages, but must be accompanied by an English translation.

ENTRY SUBMISSION: Wednesday, February 18 by 5:00 p.m.
Include the following materials:
(a) One challenge entry form per section A/B/C (available at www.fairchildchallenge.org)
(b) Maximum six entries (two for 4A, two for 4B, two for 4C)

EVALUATION CRITERIA: A panel of judges will award points based on creativity, use of descriptive vocabulary, and relevance to the theme. Refer to the Challenge 4 evaluation sheets on our website for more details.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS: Visit www.fairchildchallenge.org

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Entries will be displayed at the Awards Ceremony on May 27, 2015 and may be collected immediately afterwards. Entries not collected by June 5, 2015 will become the property of Fairchild. Select entries may be used by The Fairchild Challenge for fundraising or other purposes.

CHALLENGE 4A: For individual students, Grades K & 1 (Haiku)

✓ ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

☐ Written entry must be a haiku
☐ Entries must follow standard haiku format and include text only; no accompanying artwork allowed
☐ Entries must be legibly handwritten or typed in size 12 font or larger, with the student’s name, grade and school included
☐ If the entry is in a language other than English, an English version must be included

CHALLENGE 4B – For individual students, Grades 2 & 3 (Poem)

✓ ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

☐ Written entry must be a poem
☐ Entries must not exceed 150 words, and must include text only; no accompanying artwork allowed
☐ Entries must be legibly handwritten or typed in size 12 font or larger, with the student’s name, grade and school included
☐ If the entry is in a language other than English, an English version must be included

Seedling. Courtesy of Google Images
CHALLENGE 4C – For individual students, Grades 4 & 5 (Short Story)

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:**

- Written entry must be a **short story**
- Entries must not exceed **300 words**, and must include text only; no accompanying artwork allowed
- Entries must be legibly handwritten or typed in size 12 font or larger, with the student’s name, grade and school included
- If the entry is in a language other than English, an English version must be included

*Woodpecker with seed. Photo by Pedro Lastra.*
CHALLENGE 5
ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION
For groups, Grades Pre-K to 5; maximum points: 400

YOUR CHALLENGE: Take action to raise environmental awareness and conservation in your home, school and community. Students should work in groups to organize, implement or expand innovative environmental action efforts that are solution-oriented. Document your school’s efforts, progress and results with a booklet or PowerPoint presentation.

ENTRY SUBMISSION: Wednesday, April 22 by 5:00 p.m.
Include the following materials:
(a) One challenge entry form (available at www.fairchildchallenge.org)
(b) Maximum one booklet OR PowerPoint presentation per elementary school

Note: PowerPoint submission will not be accepted via email.

EVALUATION CRITERIA: A panel of judges will award points based on depth and breadth of student involvement, scope of work, concept and knowledge of relevant issues and possible solutions, clarity and presentation. Make sure that the booklet/PowerPoint fully represents all efforts, as judges base their evaluations entirely on the booklet/PowerPoint. Refer to the Challenge 5 evaluation sheet on our website for more details.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS: Visit www.fairchildchallenge.org

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Entries will be displayed at the Awards Ceremony on May 27, 2015 and may be collected immediately afterwards. Entries not collected by June 5, 2015 will become the property of Fairchild. Select entries may be used by The Fairchild Challenge for fundraising or other purposes.

SPECIAL EVENTS (optional): Fairchild will host a YouthCaN Miami Conference on Friday, February 6, 2015. Participating schools will receive 50 bonus points towards their Challenge 5 entry. For more information, see pg. 17.

- ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:
  - Projects should engage individuals on each of the following levels: school (students and teachers), home (family), and community (local, national and/or global)
  - Students must be highly involved in the implementation, design and construction of the booklet/PowerPoint
  - Booklet/PowerPoint must indicate how many students or classes were involved
  - Booklet/PowerPoint must include one page summarizing results of environmental action initiatives
  - Booklet/PowerPoint must include both text and images
  - Booklet: should be constructed in an environmentally friendly manner; must be 12 x 12 inches or less, and 12 double-sided pages or less, excluding the front and back cover pages; pages cannot include additional attachments or be used as pockets.
  - PowerPoint: must be 26 slides or less with pictures and text only; minimum font size of 28; no video, audio, transition or animation effects; must be submitted on CD or thumb drive, no email submission allowed; file must be formatted to be compatible with 97-2002 Microsoft Office programs (the file should end with ppt not pptx)
Participate in YouthCaN at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden on Friday, February 6, 2015.
YouthCaN is a global organization that unites environmentally active youth around the world to exchange ideas about the environment and empower others to make a difference in their own communities. Students participating in YouthCaN Miami will prepare a hands-on, interactive workshop on the environmental topic/project of their choice and present to an audience of their peers.

Registration is required by Friday, January 16.
Limited space available; max 3 groups of 10 presenters per school. Buses are available upon request for Title 1 schools. Participating schools will receive **50 bonus** points applied to their Challenge 5 entry.

For more information about YouthCaN, visit www.youthcanworld.org.
For more information about this event, contact challengepk-5@fairchildgarden.org.
CHALLENGE 6
SCHOOL GARDEN
For groups, Grades Pre-K to 5; maximum points: 400

YOUR CHALLENGE: Establish, expand or restore a garden or habitat that is utilized across the curriculum at your school, taking into consideration environmentally-friendly gardening strategies. Develop descriptive materials such as signs, a map or a brochure to communicate the message of the garden to your school community. Create a booklet or PowerPoint presentation that summarizes your gardening efforts and outcomes.

ENTRY SUBMISSION: Wednesday, May 6 by 5:00 p.m.
Include the following materials:
(a) One challenge entry form (available at www.fairchildchallenge.org)
(b) Maximum one booklet OR PowerPoint presentation per elementary school

Note: PowerPoint submission will not be accepted via email.

EVALUATION CRITERIA: A panel of judges will award points based on depth and breadth of student involvement, integration into curriculum, creativity, and presentation. Make sure that the booklet/PowerPoint fully represents all efforts, as judges base their evaluations entirely on the booklet/PowerPoint. Refer to the Challenge 6 evaluation sheet on our website for more details.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS: Visit www.fairchildchallenge.org

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Select entries will be displayed at The Fairchild Challenge Awards Ceremony on May 27, 2015 and may be collected immediately afterwards. Entries not collected by June 5, 2015 will become the property of Fairchild. Select entries may be used by The Fairchild Challenge for fundraising or other purposes.

GARDEN CONSULTATION: Fairchild Challenge staff are available throughout the year to conduct school garden consultations and/or visits to provide support and celebrate your students’ hard work. Please email challengepk-5@fairchildgarden.org to schedule a visit.

TEACHER WORKSHOP: Fairchild will conduct a one-day school garden workshop for teachers on Saturday, September 27 and Saturday, January 10 which will instruct participants in how to plan, create, maintain and utilize a garden at their school. For more information, visit www.fairchildgarden.org/teachers.

GARDEN GRANTS: The Fairchild Challenge offers competitive grants to assist with your school garden efforts. The grant application is available on our website at www.fairchildchallenge.org at the beginning of the school year. Application deadline: Friday, October 10, 2014. All recipients must submit an entry for Challenge 6 and will be required to schedule a school garden visit from Fairchild Challenge staff.

✔ ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

☐ Booklet/PowerPoint must provide descriptions or examples of how the garden/habitat is **used as a teaching tool**

☐ Students must be highly involved in the **implementation, design and construction** of the booklet/PowerPoint

☐ Booklet/PowerPoint must indicate how many students or classes were involved

☐ Booklet/PowerPoint must include photos or copies of the descriptive materials used to explain the garden/habitat to your school community

☐ **Booklet:** should be constructed in an environmentally friendly manner; must be **12 x 12 inches** or less, and **12 double-sided pages or less**, excluding the front and back cover pages. Pages cannot include additional attachments or be used as pockets.

☐ **PowerPoint:** must be **26 slides or less** with pictures and text only; minimum font size of 28; no video, audio, transition or animation effects; must be submitted on CD or thumb drive, no email submission allowed; files must be formatted to be **compatible with 97-2002 Microsoft Office programs** (the file should end with ppt not pptx)
FIELD STUDIES AT FAIRCHILD

Let Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden supplement your curriculum with multidisciplinary field trips for students in grades Pre-K through 12. All of our programs are aligned to state and national education standards and designed to support your STEM curriculum through engaging hands-on activities.

Choose from the following programs:

- **Fairchild Explorer Program** | Guided field trips for students in grades K-5
- **Discovery Program** | Guided field trips for students in grades 6-12
- **Adventure Program** | Self-guided field trips for students in grades Pre-K to 12

For more information about Field Studies at Fairchild and how to register, visit www.fairchildgarden.org/school-and-youth.

TEACHER RESOURCES AT FAIRCHILD

Fairchild offers several professional development workshops for PK-12 teachers that can support and enhance your participation in The Fairchild Challenge.

Workshops focus on botany, ecology, South Florida’s natural environment and more, providing a wealth of information and resources to supplement your curriculum.

Master Plan Points available. For more information on the schedule and how to register, visit www.fairchildgarden.org/teachers.

You may also visit Fairchild’s website to view and use our downloadable teaching modules, including resources and curricula for your classroom at www.fairchildgarden.org/teachers.
THE FAIRCHILD CHALLENGE AWARDS

By earning more than 1,000 points, 40 elementary schools received The Fairchild Challenge Award

Air Base K-8 Center • Aventura City of Excellence School • Bel-Aire Elementary
Bob Graham Education Center • Coconut Palm K-8 Academy • Dante B. Fascell Elementary
Dr. Carlos J. Finlay Elementary • Dr. E. L. Whigham Elementary • Ethel Beckford/Richmond Elementary
Eugenia B. Thomas K-8 Center • Frank C. Martin International K-8 Center
Gateway Environmental K-8 Center • George Washington Carver Elementary
Gladewater Christian School • Gordon Schools of Beth David • Greengloade Elementary
The Growing Place • Howard Drive Elementary • Kensington Park Elementary
Kenwood K-8 Center • Key Biscayne Presbyterian Church School • La Scuola • Mater Grove Academy
Northwest Christian Academy • Oliver Hoover Elementary • Palm Lakes Elementary • Palmetto Elementary
Phyllis Ruth Miller Montessori Elementary • Pinecrest Elementary • Redland Elementary
Robert Russa Moton Elementary • Royal Green Elementary • Ruth K. Broad Bay Harbor K-8 Center
Santa Fe Advantage Academy • Southside Elementary Museums Magnet School • Springview Elementary
St. John Neumann Catholic School • St. Kevin Catholic School
St. Thomas Episcopal Parish School • W. J. Bryan Elementary Museums Magnet School

THE FAIRCHILD CHALLENGE HIGHEST HONORS

Cash prizes for environmental initiatives were awarded to the top-scoring elementary schools

$250 Winners
Dr. Edward L. Whigham Elementary • Eugenia B. Thomas K-8 Center • The Growing Place
Key Biscayne Presbyterian Church School • Oliver Hoover Elementary
Palm Lakes Elementary • Redland Elementary • Royal Green Elementary
Ruth K. Broad Bay Harbor K-8 Center • Santa Fe Advantage Academy

$500 Winners
La Scuola • Palmetto Elementary • Phyllis Ruth Miller Montessori Elementary
Pinecrest Elementary • Robert Russa Moton Elementary

$1000 Winner
Air Base K-8 Center

THIRD PLACE OVERALL
Phyllis Ruth Miller Montessori Elementary

SECOND PLACE OVERALL
La Scuola

FIRST PLACE OVERALL
Air Base K-8 Center
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden’s education programs reach more than 125,000 South Florida students annually and are possible thanks to generous support from

THE BATCHELOR FOUNDATION

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden
Carl E. Lewis, Ph.D., Director
Amy Padolf, M.Ed, Director of Education

Established in 1936 and dedicated in 1938, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden is the oldest cultural institution in Miami-Dade County. From the beginning, the Garden was a public and private partnership. Dr. David Fairchild assembled extraordinary plant collections, Col. Robert Montgomery provided funding, and Dade County and the Civilian Conservation Corps supplied construction labor. Other significant figures in the Garden’s history include Charles H. Crandon, Chairman of the Dade County Commission, and Marjory Stoneman Douglas, conservationist and author of The Everglades: River of Grass, who served as Fairchild’s first secretary and later on the board of trustees. Throughout Fairchild’s history, there has been a commitment to excellence in horticulture, landscape design, research, conservation and education.

Volunteers
Volunteers play a vital role in Fairchild’s education programs. Become a Fairchild volunteer and participate in activities that are helping to change the community and the world! For more information visit www.fairchildgarden.org or call the Volunteer Department 305.667.1651, ext. 3324.

The Fairchild Challenge Staff
Program Manager: Alison Walker (305.669.4088)
Program Coordinator: Diana Pena (305.669.4061)
Education Graphic Designer: Tedd Johnson

Science Literacy • Critical Thinking • Civic Engagement • Creative Expression
Community Involvement • Research • Leadership Development
Environmental Awareness • School Gardening
Our mission is to save tropical plant diversity by exploring, explaining and conserving the world of tropical plants; fundamental to this task is inspiring a greater knowledge and love for plants and gardening so that all can enjoy the beauty and bounty of the tropical world.