



Children Will be Wide Eyed at this Year's Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show

The 2011 Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show (MIFGS) held from 30 March - 3 April is packed with activities suitable for the entire family, making it one of the best value days out on Melbourne's event calendar.

Held over five days at the Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens, this year's Show is anticipated to have children in a flurry as they navigate a range of entertainment, created just for them.

The Disney Fairies Children's Garden is expected to be a child-pleaser, where fairy tales are literally brought to life. Budding green thumbs can get their hands dirty with pot planting, drawing, and face painting all within a magical garden setting featuring a petting zoo.

The Disney Fairies Children's Garden marquee will feature a rest area with soft couches where children can take a break and view the Disney Fairies Pixie Previews as well as read Disney books.

The colour continues with The Alannah and Madeline Foundation's 'Butterfly Enclosure'. For a \$5 donation, children can participate in a butterfly workshop while marvelling at the butterflies or 'flying flowers' (as they are appropriately nicknamed).

Butterflies will be all a flutter, much to delight of those children lucky enough to have a butterfly land on them. Bright coloured clothing is a must, to increase the likelihood of this happening. The butterfly workshop will include a presentation from butterfly experts introducing children to butterflies.

Funds raised from the Butterfly Enclosure will be directed towards The Alannah and Madeline Foundation, a national charity protecting children from violence.

Over the five days, children will be encouraged to make a gold coin donation and receive a flower to add to The Alannah and Madeline Foundation's floral display located in the Main Hall. Each flower represents the 9,000 children in emergency accommodation who will this year receive Buddy Bags containing essential items. For further information visit www.amf.org.au

In addition Kids Under Cover will be bringing its masterpiece cubby houses for children to explore. Designed by Australia's leading architects and designers, the cubby houses are miniature homes for its pint sized audience, which go beyond traditional cubby house convention. It must be seen to be believed!

The Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show is a great value day out for the family, with kids five years & under receiving free entry. Ticket prices are as follows:

Family (2 adults and 2 children):	\$45
Group:	\$17*
Adult:	\$20
Concession:	\$17**

Child (6 – 16 years): \$8
Child (5 years & under): Free

*Groups of 10 or more people, per person price

** Tertiary Student Card, Victoria Seniors Card, Pensioner Concession Card and Victorian Carer Card holders.

MIFGS is the largest and most successful horticultural event in the Southern Hemisphere, attracting garden enthusiasts, trade professionals and those who just love the outdoors.

For further details on the Show visit www.melbflowershow.com.au

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