

Gantry Plaza State Park Environmental Education

Program Guide



New York State
Parks, Recreation and
Historic Preservation

All programs
are FREE

2024/25



About the Park

Gantry Plaza State Park is located along the East River estuary boasting spectacular views of the Manhattan skyline in Long Island City, Queens. The park has four piers, a playground, a community garden, numerous sports fields, and the iconic 'Pepsi-Cola' sign. Find the park's namesake by the piers: the restored gantries that once were used to load and unload rail car floats and barges.

Address: **4-09 47th Road, Long Island City, NY 11101**

Book a Program

- Programs are offered **Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday**, between 9am and 5:30pm. Dates are first-come-first-served.
- Programs are typically 90 to 120 minutes but can be altered to your group's needs.
- To book a program please email **NYCEE@parks.ny.gov**
- Please send us your name, phone number, school/group name, grade/age of students, size of group, and program preference to get started
- Each program accommodates up to 30 person groups

Seasonal Storytime

Pre - K

Mar - Nov

Join us for a craft, storytime, and a guided hike!

Tree Huggers

Level 1: K - 2nd, Level 2: 3rd - 5th

April - Nov

How familiar are you with NYC trees? From roots to tree tops learn all you need to know about TREES!

Birds of a Feather

K - 5th

March - Nov

The diverse habitats of NYC support hundreds of species of birds! Study what makes birds unique and why they are important to our ecosystems.

Don't Hate, Pollinate

Grades 2nd - 5th

May - Oct

The relationship between plants and pollinators supports life on Earth! Learn about NYC's pollinators and what we can do to protect them.

Adapt to Survive

Grades 3rd - 6th

May - Oct

Through games and exploring the park, students will learn how animals survive and thrive in their environments.

Estuary Explorers

Grades 3rd - 7th

April - Oct

Learn about NYC's estuaries by exploring the microscopic critters that support ocean ecosystems.

Oyster Observation

Grades 6th - 12th

Mar - Nov

Become a citizen scientist by monitoring water quality and studying the growth of the oysters in our research cages.

Climate Calamity

Grades 5th - 12th

Mar - Nov

Explore the impacts of climate change on NYC through hands on activities and participate in stewardship to make a positive impact in your community!

Fishing Frenzy

All Ages

June - Oct

Learn the basics of rod and reel fishing then try your luck to see if you can catch a fish from the East River!

Art in the Park

All grades

Mar - Nov

From sketching to watercolor to poetry, nature journaling is a key way we can record observations and create deeper connections with our ecosystems.

Custom Program

Don't see anything you like? Need to earn a badge? Send us your badge requirements and we will work with you to create a custom program. From beach clean-ups, to learning leave no trace principles, to submitting data to community science projects, our park offers unique ways to engage with the outdoors and earn badges!

Note:

- All programs are **completely outdoors**. All students should dress accordingly.
- **Cancellation policy:** We will cancel a program in the event of an emergency or severe weather. If your program is canceled we will do our best to reschedule for a later date.
- **Transportation grants:** <https://parks.ny.gov/environment/connect-kids/grant-program.aspx>
- COVID policy: NYS Parks follows all guidelines set by NYS DOH.
- Matching NYS Standards for each program are available upon request