

John D. MacArthur Beach State Park Environmental Education Programs



Field Experiences at MacArthur Beach State Park

Nestled on a barrier island, John D. MacArthur Beach State Park encompasses 436 acres and includes a mangrove fringed estuary, coastal hardwood forest, nearly two miles of beach and Anastasia limestone rock reefs.

Program Options:

Fish Fun

Students explore the estuary, focus on physical characteristics of fish in our aquariums and participate in hands-on activities focused on habitat needs.

Grade 1

Bird Basics

Students focus on the diversity of the survival adaptations of birds from the estuary to the beach ecosystems.

Grades 4 - 5

Over in the Ocean

Students explore the beach ecosystem and participate in activities that involve scientific measurement and observation.

Grade 2

The Wonders of Water -

Students investigate the water cycle and conduct experiments to highlight the importance of our water resources.

Grades 4 - 5

Plants Plus

Take a hike through the maritime hammock learning about plant structures, adaptations and identification.

Grade 3

Sea Turtle Time

Students observe our resident logger-head sea turtle, followed by activities which focus on sea turtle adaptations.

Grades 4 - 5

Water Patrols

Students go on a "water patrol" around the Park learning about the different ways plants, animals, and humans use water and the importance of conservation.

Grades 1 - 3

Life in the Estuary

Students wade at low tide in the estuary, seining and exploring the mangroves to examine the interconnectedness of this ecosystem.

Grade 5

Habits and Habitats

Students compare and contrast the coastal ecosystems using a variety of scientific tools.

Grades 4 - 5



Join us for our Virtual Field Trips! Tune in From Your Classroom!

A collaboration between the School District of Palm Beach and MacBeach is made possible through a grant by the Mary and Robert Pew Public Education Fund.

Each month we will provide live presentations on different ecological topics with correlations to the state standards. At the end of the presentation, your class can ask questions, and the experts will answer while still on air.

All programs are on the District Approved Free Transportation list.

All programs are provided **free of charge** to Palm Beach County students, funding provided by **Friends of MacArthur Beach State Park, Inc.**

Partners: Community Foundation for Palm Beach and Martin Counties, Lost Tree Village Charitable Foundation, Palm Beach County Cultural Council, School District of Palm Beach County, Sharkey Family Foundation, Inc., and Swantz Family Foundation.

Learning by Exploring the Living Laboratory

A scientifically informed citizenry is critically important to understand and take part in current and future decisions about the use and protection of our natural resources.

A clear understanding of the fundamentals of science is needed, along with comprehensive age-appropriate hands-on experiential learning activities to excite and involve all students in science.



We offer an outdoor learning experience in an environment that exists nowhere else in Palm Beach County. Our curriculum meets the Next Generation Sunshine State Standards (NGSSS) for Science, set forth by the Florida State Board of Education and the nationally recognized Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), and B.E.S.T. Standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics, which includes making STEM connections.

Committed to achieving lasting change that transforms children's lives, Friends of MacArthur Beach State Park makes environmental education a priority. With a focus on Title I students, these programs have been provided free-of-charge since 2001.

Water Rangers

Students explore, analyze and record the many ways that the ecosystems of our Park provide for the essential resource of clean water. They will investigate the impact of plants, animals and humans.

Grades 6 - 8

Beach Explorations

Students explore and measure the beach and dune community to see and understand the natural processes of erosion, weathering and deposition.

Grades 6 - 8

Water S.O.S.

Students participate in a "get wet" investigation of the Park's water quality by exploration and scientific testing of the estuary.

Grades 6 - 8

Estuary Explorations

This higher level experience includes seine netting, mangrove walking and water quality testing.

Grades 6 - 12



Oceans 911

Students become marine debris experts while researching the crisis situation, taking action to clean up marine debris and theorizing solutions for the great garbage patches in our oceans.

Grades 9 - 12

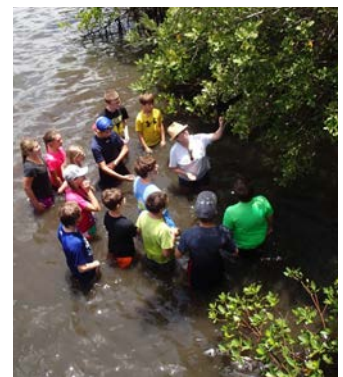
Collected data will be reported to local and national marine debris collection organizations.

Environmental Education Professional Development Workshops

Join us for a series of workshops utilizing various award winning Environmental Education materials including Project WILD, Project Learning Tree, and many more! These workshops are open to anyone looking to enhance their school programs for students.

Bring your class to the Park for a Free Self Exploration Trip and learn about the global Marine Debris issue.

Your students will become Citizen Scientists as they take action to help tackle it and clean up our Beach ecosystem. All materials are provided.



For more information: Sarah Norton, Director of
Education 561-776-7449 Ext 104
Sarah@macarthurbeach.org

Learn more at:
www.macarthurbeach.org/school-programs/

Scheduling Your Field Experience:

- Programs are provided free-of-charge
- Groups must provide 1 adult for every 10 students
- Confirmation packets will be emailed upon registration
- Pre-tests and Post-tests are required
- Following the program, groups are welcome to use a pavilion with picnic tables for lunch

Interested in Supporting the Environmental Education Program or the Transportation Fund?

Please provide the name(s) as you would like them to appear on the Donor Recognition.

Name(s): _____

Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

PAYMENT INFORMATION: ☐ Enclosed is my check payable to Friends of MacArthur Beach State Park

☐ Please charge \$_____ to Card #_____

VC code _____ Exp. Date _____ Signature: _____

PLEDGE INFORMATION: ☐ I wish to make a pledge of \$_____, to be paid over a period of 3 years. Please bill me: ☐ Annually ☐ Quarterly ☐ Please call me to discuss pledge period and payments

Friends of MacArthur Beach State Park
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