Connect Kids to Parks
Field Trip Grant Program

Tell us about your Trip!
Send photos and testimonials to: parksbusgrant@parks.ny.gov

Tag us on Social Media!
Facebook, Twitter and Instagram @nysparks #connectkids #nystateparks

The New York State Parks Connect Kids program supports Governor Cuomo’s Health Across All Policies/Age-Friendly NY Executive Order which directs state agencies to incorporate the principles of age and health friendly communities into all relevant programs and policies.

Connect Kids to Parks
New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
2nd Floor / DESP
625 Broadway
Albany, New York 12207
The Connect Kids to Parks Field Trip Grant Program (Connect Kids) connects New York school children with nature, outdoor recreation and history by refunding transportation costs and program fees up to $1000 for eligible classrooms.

Who is Eligible

• Classrooms of any grade level in New York State public school districts with at least one Title 1 school
• After-school sponsored clubs in eligible school districts
• Advantage After School programs
• 21st Century Community Learning Centers
• Empire After School Program
• New York City Department of Youth & Community Development After School Programs
• Any municipal recreation programs in communities with Title 1 schools

Field Trips to state parks, nature centers and historic sites offer unlimited adventure! A Connect Kids grant will fund transportation AND fees for organized programs and activities, camping, entry to historic sites and much more!

It’s Easy to Apply!

Teachers, Administrators & Program Leaders Can Apply for a Connect Kids Grant by Following these steps

1. Come up with a field trip idea and secure any needed approval from school or program. Need a field trip idea? Visit parks.ny.gov
2. Contact the state park, historic site or eligible site directly to schedule a field trip
3. Work with the school or program’s budget and transportation offices to arrange payments, order buses and complete any other necessary paperwork
4. Calculate the field trip expenses. The grant program will reimburse up to $1000 in eligible costs that include transportation; program, entry and pavilion fees
5. Apply online at www.parks.ny.gov at least 2 weeks before the scheduled date of the field trip and receive confirmation paperwork via email upon approval
6. Go on the field trip! Bring along the approved grant application for verification and collect all receipts
7. Send receipts and signed application to State Parks parkbusgrant@parks.ny.gov within 60 days of the completed field trip
8. The refund will be sent in approximately 4 weeks via electronic transfer

Where Can You Go?

New York State is home to an abundance of public lands offering limitless opportunity for environmental education, outdoor recreation and historic interpretation. Plan your Connect Kids field trip to any of these areas:

• More than 250 New York State Parks, Historic Sites, Nature Centers and outdoor facilities
• Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Environmental Education Centers and Fish Hatcheries
• Adirondack Loj
• SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry’s Newcomb Campus
• Chittenango Landing Canal Boat Museum
• Montezuma Audubon Center
• Constitution Marsh Audubon Center and Sanctuary
• Wilton Wildlife Preserve & Park
• Congressman Maurice D. Hinchey Catskills Visitor Center
• Belleayre, Whiteface, and Gore Mountain Ski Resorts
• Black Rock Forest Consortium

Questions?

Email us: Parkbusgrant@parks.ny.gov
Call us: 518-474-6736
Contact us: www.parks.ny.gov