

Jones Beach State Park Nature Center

Tiny Tots: "Nature Discoveries"

Explore the natural world around us. These programs will connect children and their parents with nature through short walks, animal visitors, and crafts. Children ages 3 -5.

Held on Thursdays: 10:30 - 11:30 am and 1:30 - 2:30 pm.

July 6 th	Nature T's
July 27 th	Sharks
August 3 rd	Crabby Crabs
August 24 st	Sand Art
September 7 th	Changing Seasons
September 21 st	Butterflies

Stargazing Nights

Join the members of the Amateur Observers Society this Summer to observe the stars and constellations. Feel free to bring your telescopes or binoculars, though it is not necessary, and together we'll enjoy the amazing diamonds in the sky!

Held on Thursday Evenings in July and August: 7:30 – 9:00 pm.

July 6th
July 13th
July 20th
July 27th
August 3rd
August 10th
August 17th
August 24th
August 31st

Nature Daze

July 12th-14th
August 8th-11th

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Come down to the Nature Center to become a Junior Naturalist! Classes will be held in two multiple-day blocks, one in July and one in August, and will include games, crafts, and adventures for children ages 7 and up.

July

Baywalk

Family Program

Sunday

July 2

10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Let's go for a stroll along the bay. Together we will discover some of the plants and animals that make this unique environment their home.

Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295

T-Shirt Time!

Children's Program

Friday

July 7

10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Join us for a day of t-shirt decorating! We will begin with beach combing, before heading back inside to create our very own summer t-shirt, inspired from what we found in nature. **Please bring one light-colored T-shirt per child.**

Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295

Bike & Bird

Adult Program

Saturday

July 8

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Bring your bicycles and your binoculars and join us for a morning ride. Together, we will get some exercise, while discovering some of the birds that spend their summers at the beach.

Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295

Nature

Investigators

Children's Program

Sunday

July 9

1:30 - 3:00 pm

Calling all detectives - we need your help in solving our Dune Scene Investigation! The piping plover eggs are missing! We have a few suspects and clues, but we need your help! Join us to solve the *Case of the Missing Plover Eggs*.

Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295

Mid-Tide Splash

Family Program

Saturday

July 15

10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Get ready to get wet! We're taking you down to the bay to seine, collect, and identify animals that live in the bay. Make sure you wear shoes that can go into the water and protect your feet, and clothing that's good for the water.

Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295

Jazzy Jellyfish

Children's Program

Sunday

July 16

1:30 - 3:00 pm

What are jellyfish made of? How do they move? What do they eat? Discover the answers to these questions and a whole lot more as we explore the lives of these unique creatures!

Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295

What Goes Bump In the Night?

Family Program

Friday

July 21

7:30 - 9:00 pm

What animals are out and about at night? How do they survive in the dark? Come to the nature center to use some of your other senses to "see" the animals that are around when the sun goes down.

Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295

Powerful

Pollinators

Children's Program

Sunday

July 23

1:30 - 3:00 pm

Ever wonder how your fruits and veggies start out? Odds are, there was a pollinator involved! Come discover the different types of pollinators in our area, and why it's so important to protect them.

Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295

Shark Night!

Family Program

Friday

July 28 (7/14)

6:30 - 8:00 pm

Sharks are some of the most feared fish in the sea, but there is more to them than meets the eye. Come down for a night of thrills and chills at the Nature Center as we explore the world of the sea's most amazing predators.

Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295

**Snakes
Rattle & Roll**
Children's Program

Saturday July 29 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Snakes are one of the most misunderstood animals in the world. Though feared by many, most are completely harmless, and play an important role in the environment. Join us as we discover more about these amazing reptiles!

Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295

Mid-Tide Splash
Family Program

Sunday July 30 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Get ready to get wet! We'll be going down to the bay, and using our seine net we'll collect, identify and release animals that live in the bay. Make sure you wear shoes that can go into the water and protect your feet, and clothing that's good for the water.

Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295

August

**It's Getting
Warm in Here**
Children's Program

Saturday August 5 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Everyone loves a nice warm summer, but over the years the Earth's temperature has gradually been rising, due to a phenomenon called global warming. But what is global warming? Join us as we discover through activities and experiments, the causes, effects, and how we can help.

Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295

**Jones Beach
History Walk**
Adult Program

Friday August 11 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Jones Beach State Park was created to be, and still is today, a retreat for city dwellers on the hot summer days - a place to escape the crowds and tall buildings. Join us for an evening walk along the boardwalk to explore the history behind these unique buildings.

The program is a 2 mile walk and discussion, so wear comfortable walking shoes.

Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295

Beach Art
Children's Program

Saturday August 12 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Join us for a day of beach inspired arts and crafts! We begin with beach combing before heading back inside to create a variety of summer souvenirs, incorporating the treasures we found in nature.

Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295

Mid-Tide Splash
Family Program

Sunday August 13 1:30 - 3:00 pm

Get ready to get wet! We'll be going down to the bay, and using our seine net we'll collect, identify and release animals that live in the bay. Make sure you wear shoes that can go into the water and protect your feet, and clothing that's good for the water.

Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295

**Illuminating
Waters**
Family Program

Friday August 18 6:30 - 8:00 pm

For deep ocean animals, home is a dark place. But some animals have adapted to produce their own light. Come discover all about this amazing phenomenon, called bioluminescence, and the different animals that use it.

Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295

Wrack Line Walk
Family Program

Saturday August 19 1:30 - 3:00 pm

The 'wrack line' refers to the trail of shells, seaweed, and other debris that is washed ashore and left at the high tide line. Join us for a walk on the beach as we explore the wrack line for the treasures it might be hiding!

Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295

Rubbish Rhumba

Children's Program

Sunday August 20 1:30 - 3:00 pm

We all know we should try to reuse and recycle whenever we can. But did you know that you can turn some of your garbage into musical instruments? Join us as we show you how to transform your trash into musical treasure!

Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295**Sunset Stroll**

Family Program

Friday August 25 6:30 - 8:00 pm

Bring your walking shoes and join us for a leisurely stroll along the jetty. Make sure to also bring your camera for some amazing summer sunset photo opportunities.

Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295**What's Up
With Weather**

Children's Program

Saturday August 26 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

From wind and rain to sunny skies, the weather on Long Island can change so quickly. Through a combination of demonstrations and experiments, we will explore some different types of weather.

Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295**September****Precipitation
Investigation**

Children's Program

Saturday September 2 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Acid rain is a problem that affects the whole Earth. Through games and activities, we will discover what acid rain is, how it is caused, and what we can do to stop it.

Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295**Baywalk**

Family Program

Sunday September 3 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Let's go for a stroll along the bay. Together, we will discover some of the plants and animals that make this unique environment their home.

Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295**Max Wheat
Memorial Poetry
Writing Workshop**

Adult Program

Saturday September 9 9:30 am - 1:30 pm

Join us for a day of nature and poetry as we continue a tradition started at the Nature Center by the late, great Max Wheat! Tom Stock, a naturalist, poet, hiker, and experienced workshop leader will be taking on the programs in honor and remembrance of Max. Please come prepared with lunch, outdoor dress, and writing tools.

Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295**Tracks & Traces**

Children's Program

Sunday September 10 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Children will become nature detectives as they unravel the clues left behind by the park's wildlife. Make your own Tracks & Traces book filled with your favorite animal tracks to take home.

Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295**Geology Rocks**

Children's Program

Saturday September 16 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Did you know that there are rocks that glow in the dark, rocks that float, and rocks that conduct electricity? Come explore the intriguing world of geology!

Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295**Bike & Bird**

Adult Program

Sunday September 17 9:00 - 11:30 am

Bring your bicycles and your binoculars and join us for a morning ride. Together, we will get some exercise while discovering some of the birds that spend their summers at the beach.

Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295

**Jones Beach:
"Castles in the Sand"**
Adult Program

Friday September 22 6:30 - 8:00 pm
Jones Beach is one of the most visited state parks in all of New York, second only to Niagara Falls. But have you ever wondered how it got to be so popular? Join us as we reveal the origins of one of this state's most beautiful parks.
Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295

**Fantastic Creatures
And Where to Find
Them**
Children's Program

Saturday September 23 1:30 - 3:00 pm
Come down to the Nature Center to be a junior cryptozoologist! From The Loch Ness Monster, to Bigfoot, we will try to uncover the mysteries behind these legendary creatures.
Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295

Winged Wanderers
Family Program

Sunday September 24 10:30am - 12:00 pm
Monarch butterflies are making their way down south. Those from the northeast fly along our east coast shore line this time of year migrating one way down to spend the winter in Mexico! Come learn about the lives of these amazing flyers and how they make their long trip.
Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295

Family Game Night
Family Program

Friday September 29 6:30 - 8:00 pm
The weekend is here! Time to have some fun! Bring the whole family down to the Nature Center for some Friday night wildlife-inspired games and activities.
Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295

**Monarch Beach
Walk**
Adult Program

Saturday September 30 9:00 - 11:30 am
Autumn is right around the corner, and this time of year is when the great Monarch butterfly migration begins. These amazing little insects travel thousands of miles to reach their wintering grounds. Join us for a walk along the barrier island, a migratory route for Monarchs during their journey south.
Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295

Hempstead Lake State Park

Fishing Fun
Children's Program

Saturday July 22 10:30am - 12:30 pm
It's time for some fishing fun! Whether you've been fishing before, or it's your first time, come to Hempstead Lake State Park, and we'll show you the basics. From tackle and casting techniques, to live bait and local fish species identification, we'll show you how to make your next fishing trip a success!
Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295

Fond of Ponds
Children's Program

Sunday August 6 1:30 - 3:00 pm
Every pond is like a mini, secret world: you never know what kind of tiny plants and animals are living just below the surface. Using various netting methods, we will explore and identify some of the hidden inhabitants of ponds.
Reservations are required: (516) 780-3295