



BAYARD CUTTING
ARBORETUM
Education Program

Welcome to the BCA Education Program:

We are so excited to have you with us! We are thrilled to have a new space designated for safe and fun learning opportunities. Our outdoor classroom is inside the gates of the CSA Farm so students will be able to observe and participate in the growing seasons.

All class and workshop schedules are listed on our website under each age group's page (see Donor Perfect link). Please choose the date, time, and age group appropriate for your child(ren). You are free to choose individual classes or the whole season. Make-up classes will only be **due to teacher cancellation** (for example, in case of extreme weather); dates to be determined at the end of the season. Classes will be held rain or shine. Please sign up at least 24 hours before class begins. All student cancellations will be treated as donations to the arboretum. **We cannot issue refunds for missed classes.**

It is important that your child comes to every class prepared and dressed appropriately in order to fully participate in each lesson. Classes are held outside or in the barn, which is without air conditioning/heat. Students will not be allowed to participate in some activities if they are not wearing the proper attire. This means that each child should have:

-A bottle of water with their name on it

-A face mask (Students may not be able to maintain a social distance while inside the barn or chicken coop, observing demonstrations, or planting in the garden. It is recommended by the CDC that masks be worn when students are inside or gathered close together. If you choose to have your child in a mask, we will take mask and water breaks periodically.)

-Shoes or boots that can get muddy and wet - Closed-toed shoes are necessary for your child's safety while participating in most farm activities.

-Appropriate clothing for the weather/season - Even though the weather may be warm, long pants protect against ticks, and light-colored, long-sleeved shirts protect against sun exposure and mosquitoes. It is suggested that caregivers bring a change of clothes for their children for the car ride home. As the weather becomes colder, a snowsuit and/or a heavy jacket may be necessary. Please make sure your child is prepared to spend the whole hour outdoors.

-A hat/sunscreen/bug spray already applied before class begins - Our educators will **not** be able to help with sunscreen or bug spray applying.

We highly recommend purchasing a NYS Empire Pass to pay for parking each time you visit the BCA. Passes are issued in the Spring and can be purchased in the Manor House for your convenience. The Empire Pass will cover the fee at our facility as well as all state parks. Visit parks.ny.gov/admission for details. **Please use the main parking lot and arrive early to allow adequate time to park and walk to the farm.** Caregivers should utilize strollers or wagons for young children on the walk which should take about five to

ten minutes. Follow the signs for the CSA Farm or visit the Arboretum website for a map. **Note:** Pedestrians and service vehicles also use the roads and paths. **Please be careful and drive slowly once inside the gates.**

Students will be able to touch, taste, and smell various produce and plants on our farm. Please complete and submit allergy/medical forms before class begins. We will provide proper hand washing stations before the children handle/eat anything, and before leaving the farm. All supplies used will be washed and sanitized before each class.

Thank you so much for choosing us to help foster a love of hands-on, environmental education for your child! The BCA staff and I look forward to meeting you!

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Herrick
Education Coordinator
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