



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Golden Gate National Parks  
Parks As Classrooms  
Fort Mason, Building 201  
San Francisco, CA 94123-1307

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



Golden Gate National Parks

# Parks As Classrooms School Programs

2008–2009  
All Programs are Free  
[www.nps.gov/goga/forteachers](http://www.nps.gov/goga/forteachers)



Sparking Curiosity | Inspiring Learning | Encouraging Action

## Parks As Classrooms

Dynamic Parks As Classrooms programs can be timed to introduce concepts, reinforce understanding, or stimulate culminating projects within your teaching unit. Programs include classroom lessons, a national park field session, and final projects in which students can illustrate what they learned. You are provided with a notebook outlining suggested activities and teaching strategies.

You and your students have four ways to participate in Parks As Classrooms:

- Follow the Ranger—facilitated programs
- Investigate on Your Own—self-guided
- Service Learning—applied skills
- Electronic Excursions—online inquiry

\*\* Follow the Ranger programs require attendance at a Teachers' Workshop, and are limited to one class.



## Follow the Ranger

### Sensible Habitats | Grades K–2

Is it alive? From hillside to bayside, the environment around Fort Point displays an intriguing diversity of plant and animal life. Students engage in activities that help them develop an appreciation for terrestrial and aquatic habitats. They observe, describe, and compare the wildlife to be found, from songbirds to rock crabs.

### Petal Pushers | Grades 2–3

Bring your knee-high naturalists to the Presidio Native Plant Nursery for an A-Z indigenous plant adventure. Students will gain a stronger understanding of plant adaptation and life cycle while growing their own healthy stewardship ethic. A fun and effective way to connect your class to nature and ecology!

### Into the Redwood Forest | Grades 3–5

Your students discover the magic of Muir Woods National Monument, which preserves one of the last remaining old-growth forests in the Bay Area. Students collect and organize data, link plant and animal communities, and represent their new understandings through artistic explorations.

Parks As Classrooms supports academic standards for a variety of disciplines.

Student materials are available in Spanish and Chinese for certain programs.



### Alcatraz Uncovered | Grades 6–7

Excite your students with Alcatraz Island as your archeological case study. Alcatraz served as a military post, a federal penitentiary, the site of an American Indian civil rights protest, nesting site for thousands of birds annually, and the subject of Hollywood movies. Students search for clues and draw conclusions about each era.

### Rocks on the Move | Grades 6–7

Here's your chance to take your class on a hike through underwater volcanoes that erupted millions of years ago. Students study the global geologic forces that formed the Bay Area landscape, and then come to the Marin Headlands to conduct a detailed geologic trail exploration to unveil how these forces are recorded in local rocks.

### Here's the Dirt! | Grades 6–8

Get dirty in the Presidio Native Plant Nursery, where you'll help grow plants for habitat restoration. Students participate in transplanting, composting, seed cleaning, and plant identification as they learn about the environmental value of diversity and adaptation.

Crissy Field Center in the Presidio is a partnership between the Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy and the National Park Service.

[www.crissyfield.org](http://www.crissyfield.org)



## Investigate on Your Own

### Nature's Classroom | Grades K–5

Your students travel on an inquiry journey through Muir Woods and along the Redwood Creek Watershed. They record their observations of the forest communities in journals. See park website for materials. For reservations, please call (415) 388-2596.

### Artillery, Bricks & Co. | Grades 3–5

Why does San Francisco have the only massive brick and granite seacoast fort on the West Coast? Gold Rush era Fort Point was garrisoned in order to protect the city, its harbor, and the maritime resources that sailed through it. Students uncover the daily lives of soldiers and the intricate work of stonemasons. See park web site for materials. For reservations, please call (415) 561-2829.

## Service Learning

### Talking 'Bout My Regeneration | Grades 6–12

The park is thriving and so can your students as they join NPS staff and volunteers in restoration work in the nursery and the field. Students experience the direct relationship between classroom science and the ecological and horticultural concepts used in national parks. Limited to one class. Individual students may apply for opportunities. For reservations, please call (415) 561-3077.



## Electronic Excursions

Electronic Excursions feature lively inquiry lessons in science and social studies for Grades 5-12. [www.nps.gov/goga/forteachers](http://www.nps.gov/goga/forteachers)

### Questioning Artifacts | Grades 6–12

Dig into archeology and inquiry on this interactive exploration of Alcatraz Island. Students discover how artifacts—found and missing—influence our interpretation of history, cultures, and even ourselves.

### PARK Teachers | Grades 6–12

How do I recognize geologic change in my environment? Delve deep into plate tectonics and the Franciscan Complex with Cookie Tectonics, Edible Geology, and more.

### Plants: Dichotomous from Top to Bottomous Grades 5–9

What does observing a plant tell us? Your students use a dichotomous plant key to answer a series of questions that help identify plants in the field. Follow the clues!

## Coming in the winter of 2009

### Nuclear Reactions | Grades 11–12

How can we simultaneously prepare for war and peace? In the seemingly calm Marin Headlands, sits a Nike nuclear missile site built during the Cold War. Students consider the era's definition of security, the technology it spawned, and its relevance today.

# Registration Opens August 18

## How To Register

Go to [www.nps.gov/goga/forteachers](http://www.nps.gov/goga/forteachers) for form.

Email form to [Lynn\\_Fonfa@nps.gov](mailto:Lynn_Fonfa@nps.gov)

Or mail this completed registration form to

Golden Gate National Parks  
Parks As Classrooms  
Fort Mason, Building 201  
San Francisco, CA 94123-1307

## School Program Registration Form

Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Grade \_\_\_\_\_

# of students \_\_\_\_\_ # of chaperones \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

## Workshop Dates

- Sensible Habitats—01/15/2009
- Petal Pushers—01/10/2009
- Into the Redwood Forest—01/31/2009
- Alcatraz Uncovered—02/07/2009
- Rocks on the Move—01/10/2009
- Here's the Dirt!—01/31/2009

## Confirmation

Directions and additional program information will be included with your confirmation letter.

I heard about the programs from:

- A colleague
- Presidio Teachers' Night
- Website
- I've participated in park programs.