

## STAFF-LED Field Trip Lessons at The Battery

PreK and K

**Types of Farmers** While exploring an urban vegetable farm, learn about the different types of farmers that grow and raise all of the foods we like to eat. Once you leave the farm, you will be a farmer too!

**Observing the Seasons** Use your five senses to observe what is happening this season on the farm. In the spring find little sprouts starting to grow out of the soil, in the summer study butterflies visiting the sunflowers and during the fall learn why the leaves are changing colors.

1st and 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Eating the Rainbow** Explore the different colored fruits and vegetables growing at Battery Urban Farm that keep our bodies happy. Tend the farm crops to help grow food to keep our community healthy!

**Farm Exploration** What does it mean to be curious? Spend your visit learning all about Battery Urban Farm through your five senses. Smell rosemary, taste mint, feel a worm, see a flower blooming, and hear birds chirping. Students will practice recording these observations and sharing new questions like real scientists.

**Insect Investigators** Get your hands dirty learning all about the tiny creatures that help us do our work on the farm. We will discover what happens to the food scraps we feed our worms, why a spider weaves a web, and how bees help us grow our tomatoes!

3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>

**The Job of a Seed** Seeds are used to grow crops season after season, but seeds are also valuable sources of energy to keep our bodies growing. Learn about the parts of a seed to understand how plants grow. Participate in part of the plant lifecycle depending on the season – plant, harvest or even eat a seed!

**Compost, Recycling or Trash?** Decide what to do with your leftover banana peels and candy wrappers through fun games that teach us to manage our waste more responsibly. Students will then work with **Battery Urban Farm's compost system for an** in depth understanding of the decomposition process.

**Aquatic Life in the Hudson** Visit The Battery to investigate what is living under the surface of the Hudson River. See what creatures are living in our oyster gardens and what role they play in this aquatic ecosystem. Hands on games will help us to understand how energy moves through different ecosystems on land and in the water.

## **BATTERY URBAN FARM**

**Birds' Beaks** Dive into the urban food chain through the world of birds. Observe the local bird species that live in The Battery and what they eat. Participate in simple experiments to understand how bird's beaks have evolved with access to different food sources.

6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>

**Whole and Processed Foods** Understand what happens to a potato when it becomes a potato chip and corn when it becomes corn flakes. Discover the whole foods we are growing on the farm and learn how to take this fresh produce and turn it into a delicious snack.

**Food Miles** How does food get to your dinner plate? We will use our own energy to demonstrate the fuel that is used to ship our food by airplane, ship, train and truck, and start a discussion about local food and what impact our foods' origin has on the environment. Students will participate in the local food movement by helping to grow the food we donate to local public elementary schools.

9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>

**Arable Apple** Understand the value of arable land by helping to nurture arable soil right here in Manhattan. Determine what is putting arable land in danger on a global scale, and discuss ways we can prevent future loss through our own actions. Students will learn about waste systems in NYC and participate in our farm practices that support soil life.

**Water Quality of The Hudson** Conduct water quality tests to determine everything from pH to nitrate levels in the Hudson River. Observe aquatic life in our oyster cages and measure the oysters to assist in monitoring their growth. All data collected will be entered into the Billion Oyster Project's database.