About Us

There are four seasons of education and growth at Old Westbury Gardens.

Guided, hands-on Garden programs are designed in conjunction with NYS Curriculum Standards & are led by seasoned environmental educators. Lessons allow the over 200 acre property to act as an extension of a teacher's classroom creating concrete counterparts to traditional academics—Natural Science, Art, Social Science, English & History.

Directions

Old Westbury Gardens is located in Old Westbury on Long Island, between the LI Expressway (I-495) & Jericho Turnpike (NY Route 25), approximately 20 miles east of New York City. All buses and trucks must enter at 60 Post Road.

From New York City:
LI Expressway east to exit 39–Glen Cove Road. Continue east on the service road. At the fourth light, turn right onto Post Road. The bus/service entrance is approximately 1/2 mile on the right side (60 Post Road).

From Eastern Long Island:
LI Expressway west to exit 40W–Jericho Turnpike, Rte. 25. Continue west on Jericho Turnpike for approximately 2 miles. Turn right at Westbury High School onto Post Road. The bus/service entrance is approximately 1/2 mile on the left side (60 Post Road).

Education programs funded in part by

www.oldwestburygardens.org
It's Not Easy Being Green!
Using qualities of fragrance, texture, and taste, plants directly affect their surroundings. Students follow their noses to investigate the symbiotic relationship of plants and the world around them discovering how, with key adaptations, plants are able to thrive in all types of habitats. Students plant a companion plant to bring the lesson home.

NYS Learning Standard:
LS 4 The Living Environment Key Ideas 1-6

Fine Feathered Friends
Trek through Old Westbury Gardens like a true bird-watcher and discover various species that make their home on site. Observe and decide why some birds choose to migrate and how resident birds survive the cold winter. Students will finish the program with a take home activity celebrating birds.

NYS Learning Standard:
LS 4 The Living Environment Key Ideas 1-6

Nature Upcycled
Water, light, soil— all in constant revolution, renewing and regenerating around us. Learn how Earth naturally balances and regulates our interdependent outdoor environment. Students debate humanity’s role in sustainability and craft an upcycled art piece to take home.

NYS Learning Standard:
LS 4 The Physical Setting Key Ideas 1-7

Welcome to the PollenNation
The Gardens are abuzz with excitement in the growing season! Study the science of attraction as it relates to physical adaptations of flora and fauna. Students spy pollinators like birds, bees and butterflies in action and take flight in a Gardens Pollination race. A bee buzzer craft completes the lesson.

NYS Learning Standard:
LS 4 The Living Environment Key Ideas 1, 3, 5-6

Dash Through the Decades
Time travel to early 1900s Gardens to experience Phipps family life first hand. Play games of the period, read family letters and view photo album pages to get the inside scoop on the Gold Coast era. Get your hands on history as you participate in a team artifact challenge to discover the function of mystery objects over a century old.

NYS Learning Standard:
LS 1 US and NY History Key Ideas 1-4

General Information
All group tours and education programs must be booked in advance. An outdoor public picnic area is available for lunch directly following programs, weather permitting.

Fees
$9 Students and Chaperones
Teachers and Aides are free
$125 program minimum to book
Double program discount available

Contact
Contact Lisa Reichenberger, Director of Environmental Education, at 516.333.0048, x 338 or lreichenberger@oldwestburygardens.org to schedule a visit.