Durand in my Pocket

Discovery Charter School
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Introduction

Discovery Charter School is an Expeditionary Learning school. Our goal is to foster curiosity by engaging students in real life learning situations that allow students to observe, think, and experience new things.

Learning expeditions often take place both in and out of the classroom. They involve real work aimed to target a wide audience, quality field studies, experts, and a meaningful product.

Our expedition, “Durand in my Pocket”, began by experiencing experts on various national parks and diving into the idea of Westward Expansion and the broad concept of land preservation. From there, we examined our local resources and local parks. Students studied ways to use and care for Durand Eastman Park. By hosting our “Durand Day” event and creating this pocket guide, our goal was to bring more community members into this wonderful park, rich with nature and history.
Kid-Friendly Map

Lake Ontario
DuSable Park
Eastman Park
Made by Sincere Riley.
History of Durand Eastman Park

- In 1907, Henry Durand persuaded George Eastman to donate his land to help make the park. Together, both pieces of land make up what now is called Durand Eastman Park.

- In the years that followed, the tired farmland was slowly transformed. Soil was improved, lakes were formed by damning two streams, and tens of thousands of trees and shrubs were planted throughout the park.

- Over the years the park has grown and the partnership between the City of Rochester, Monroe County, and New York State has been successful in maintaining the park's beauty which our community still enjoys year after year.
Barney Slavin was born in Ireland in 1874. When he was nine, his family saved enough money to move to Rochester, NY.

Barney only went to school for four years and then stopped. He worked on the farm for some time. He later went back to school because he knew it would benefit him to have more education.

As he planted, Barney was learning not just the names and the characteristics of the plants but also how to use the plants successfully.

Barney was moved to a new park called Highland Park where he planted some of the first lilac trees in the park.

Creating Durand Eastman Park was a herculean challenge. His boss didn’t know why Barney would bother with it, but Barney Slavin saw this as a test, one that he was going to succeed at.

In developing Durand Eastman Park, he believed that a park should be a living textbook, offering visitors the opportunity to see and touch thousands of species of shrubs, trees, and other plants.

He developed a nursery where he grew shrubs and trees from seed. He was able to grow thousands of seeds that were all special. This let him plant many different types of vegetation in the park.

It took years of hard work and perseverance to finish Durand Eastman Park. Barney Slavin made the park from nothing into what it is today. Where others failed, Slavin succeeded. There is a lot to be learned from Barney Slavin’s hard work. Its beauty can now be enjoyed by all. We should all be thankful for what he accomplished.
Durand Eastman Park is a Temperate Deciduous Forest. A Temperate Deciduous Forest has four seasons. The average rainfall is 30-60 inches per year. The average temperate is 50 degrees.
Vegetation

Lilac

Sassafras

Rhododendron
Vegetation

- Maple Tree
- Magnolia Tree
- Walnuts Tree
Animals

Wildlife

With two man-made lakes, the quiet land and water provides habitats for many species such as turtles, frogs, toads, birds, and beavers.

"Any glimpse into the life of an animal quicken our own and makes it so much the larger and better in every way." - John Muir

Yellow-Bellied Sapsucker

What it is: A small woodpecker

Habitat: Small trees

How it got its name: The small woodpecker eats sap as its main food and uses its beak to suck out the sap from trees such as birch, maple and beech. The yellow can be seen under it’s belly.

Cool Fact: The oldest Yellow-Bellied Sapsucker is 7 years old.
**Animals**

**Wood Duck**

**Habitat:** Ducks live in wooded swamps, ponds, and small lakes where they leave their eggs in holes in trees.

**What it eats:** Seeds, fruits, insects. When these are hard to find they eat acorns and other nuts from forest.

**Cool Fact:** They are one of the few duck species with strong claws that can hold onto bark and perch on branches.

**Beaver**

**Habitat:** All beavers need water to survive. They live around ponds, lakes, rivers and swamps. They build their homes called lodges. They’re made from branches and trees they chewed from and stuck together using mud.

**What it eats:** Leaves, roots, and bark from trees like willow and maple.

**Cool Fact:** Beavers can stay under water for 15 minutes.
Painted Turtle

**Habitat:** Painted turtles thrive in freshwater habitats such as ponds, lakes, and creeks. Painted turtles sleep underwater.

**What it eats:** They eat fish, insects, plants, and fruit.

**How it got its name:** Painted turtle’s shells have bright colors, like someone painted it. The top of the shell is flat with red and yellow markings on a black or greenish brown.

**Cool Fact:** Painted make a hissing sound when they stretch their necks.

Other animals you might find!

- Bass
- Squirrel
- Swan
Fun Things You Can Do

Exercise

Trail running  Jumping jacks  Push-ups  Sit-ups

Photography

How to Take a Quality Picture:
- Be still and quiet
- Hold the camera with both hands
- Zoom in on the animal, field, or tree

What to Use:
- Camera
- Phone
- Tablet

Fishing

Where can you fish at the park?
Lake Ontario, Durand Lake, Eastman Lake, and Pat Lake

When is the best time to fish?
In the afternoon

Don’t forget, if you catch a fish put it back!
Fun Things You Can Do

Nature Sounds

Steps:
Sit on logs or stand
Pay attention and close your eyes
Listen to the sounds that you hear
Share and explain animal sound and what direction it came from

Sounds to listen for:
Wood pecker
Swan
Wood Duck
Bees
Spring Peeper Frog
Fish
Chipmunks
Birds

Hiking

Trails to Hike:
Durand Lake Trail
Eastman Lake Trail
Trott Lake Trail

Tips:
Be ready for any whether
The markers on the trees tell you what trail you are on
Look out for animals and tree roots

Gear:
Water bottle
Snacks
Proper foot wear
Nature Art Inspired by Goldsworthy

Who is Andy Goldsworthy?

He is a British artist known for his art work installations that he creates in nature with natural materials. He is part of the Environmental art movement.

What does he do?

He creates art from nature! The materials used in Andy Goldsworthy's art often include brightly colored flowers, icicles, leaves, mud, pinecones, snow, stone, twigs, and thorns.

"I think it's incredibly brave to be working with flowers and leaves and petals. But I have to, I can't edit the materials I work with. My remit is to work with nature as a whole.” -Andy Goldsworthy
More Nature Art!
What can YOU do to help?

By Judith

I think we should clean this.

Please don't litter.

- No littering in public areas.
- Help DC5 stop littering.

- So there will be no pollution in water.
- So no animals will die.
What can YOU do to help?

We all need to help Durand Eastman Park. We all need to help the park because people are littering. Not littering is important because littering can ruin the environment for animals, plants, and us. It affects animals because they need a clean environment to survive. Also, it ruins plants because plants live in nature and are part of the environment. It ruins us because we live in the environment. That is why we should work hard to take care of Durand Eastman Park. When you see some garbage on the ground, pick it up!
Safety Tips

Always stay together

“If you go on a hike with many people always stay together so no one gets lost.”

-Zakiyyah

Wear sneakers or hiking boots

“Wearing good shoes help you build muscle and protect your feet from sticks and roots on the ground. Also your feet won’t hurt!

-Lamarionna

Bring water

“Water gives you energy while walking on the trails. It will keep you from getting sick or dehydrated.”

-Dahmoni
Safety Tips

Wear bug spray, sunscreen, or sunglasses

“Bug spray will keep away bugs. When it’s very hot outside you should wear sunscreen to protect your skin. Your skin can burn if you don’t put any on! Sometimes you want to wear sunglasses if it’s bright out while walking on the trail.”

-Deshawn

Bring a first aid kit

“Always bring a first aid kit with Band-Aids, spray, and wipes for anyone who might get hurt.”

-Arianna
Fun Facts

There are 500,000 different plants and trees.

There are rare and exotic species.

15% of the park is labeled as protected wetlands by the department of environmental conservation.
Fun Facts

The park is 965 acres

371 acres of the park are owned by Monroe County, and the other 594 acres are owned by the City of Rochester.