

# EVERETT CHILDREN'S ADVENTURE GARDEN



Naming Opportunities  
as of April 2025

**NYBG**

# Everett Children’s Adventure Garden

The Everett Children’s Adventure Garden (ECAG) is a crucial part of this ecosystem. With two indoor activity centers and 12 acres of immersive natural environments—including a pond, a wetland, a meadow, and a woodland—ECAG is where our youngest learners spend the most time. The garden offers indoor and outdoor plant science programs for camps, school groups, drop-in families, and after-school clubs from local Bronx schools. For many, ECAG is their primary introduction to the diversity and importance of nature.

Founded in 1998, ECAG was a groundbreaking achievement that created a nationwide movement at botanical gardens across the country. Now, a generation later, with more than 185,000 visitors entering ECAG each year, we have embarked on a project to revitalize this much-loved area of the Garden.

At NYBG we’re proud to foster a thriving ecosystem of curiosity, innovation, and experiential learning.



# The Renovation

The redevelopment of the Everett Children’s Adventure Garden will include new, refreshed hardscaping and plantings across the landscape, and updated signage that reflects current science and environmental pedagogy. It will also introduce several exciting new spaces and facilities.

New to the landscape will be a dedicated nature space for toddlers and their caretakers. And, an ADA-accessible Tree Top Walk, inviting visitors to explore the canopy of a forest habitat through a series of walkways for children of all abilities. The popular Wetland Walk will be improved with a new boardwalk and viewing platforms.

Finally, both of the existing educational buildings will receive face-lifts and repairs, as well as upgrades to their lighting and circulation. A new family restroom in the Dodge Activity Center—the first in the Garden—will be accessible to all visitors. The renovation will be completed by Spring 2025.

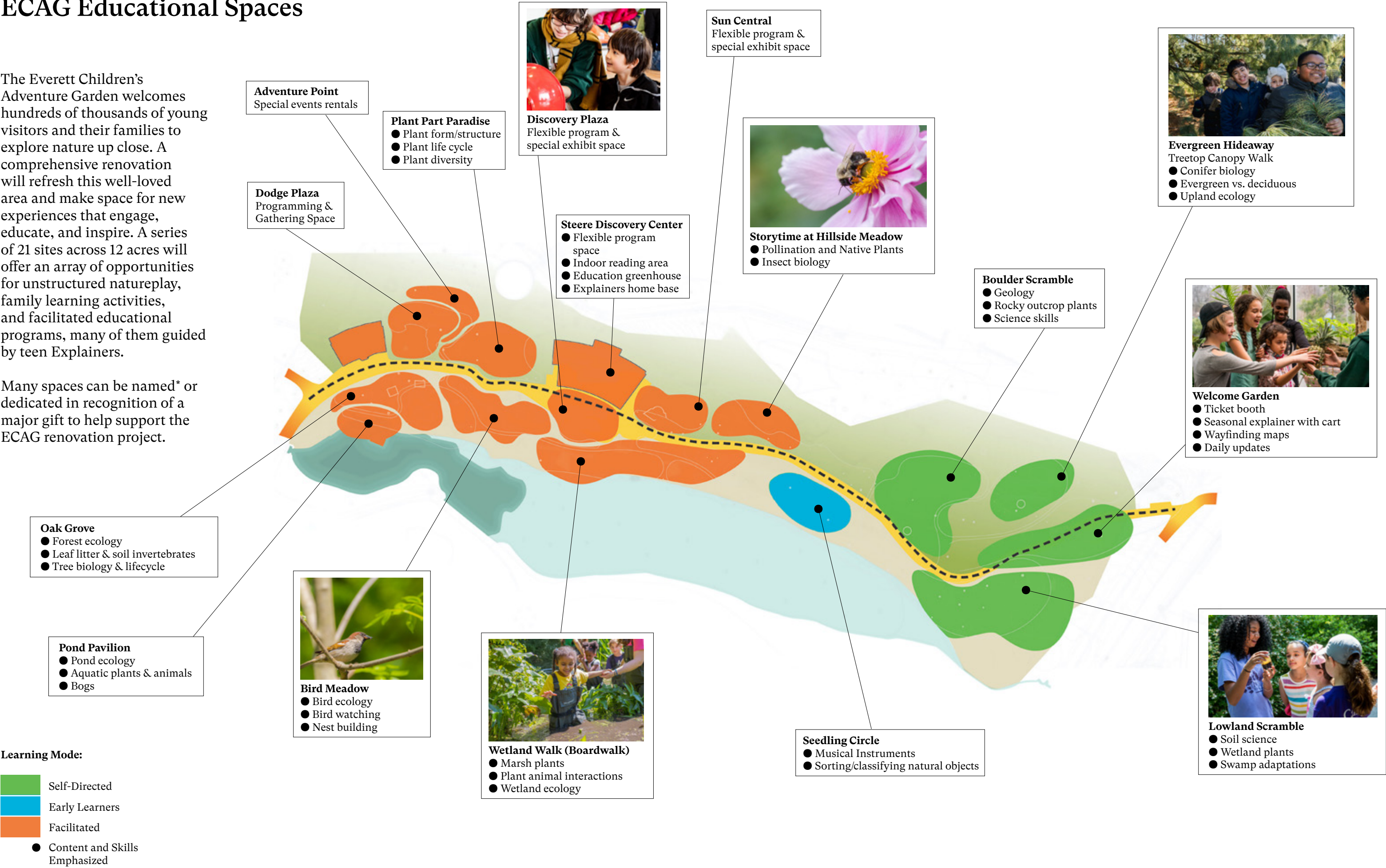
Donor recognition, including naming and dedication opportunities (see pages 4–5), is available for gifts made towards this project.



# ECAG Educational Spaces

The Everett Children's Adventure Garden welcomes hundreds of thousands of young visitors and their families to explore nature up close. A comprehensive renovation will refresh this well-loved area and make space for new experiences that engage, educate, and inspire. A series of 21 sites across 12 acres will offer an array of opportunities for unstructured natureplay, family learning activities, and facilitated educational programs, many of them guided by teen Explainers.

Many spaces can be named\* or dedicated in recognition of a major gift to help support the ECAG renovation project.



# ECAG Naming Opportunities

## Evergreen Hideaway

\$3,000,000  
The Evergreen Hideaway will be a premiere experiential learning area of ECAG. It will encompass the new Treetop Trail and feature enhanced programming that focuses on conifer biology, tree identification, and upland ecology.

## Wetland Walk (Boardwalk)

\$1,500,000  
This boardwalk through the wetland of ECAG will allow visitors to experience close up a wetland ecosystem to learn about its plants and animals and ecological relationships. It is one of the largest living habitats in ECAG, and borders the Discovery Plaza and Center.

## Treetop Walk in Evergreen Hideaway Named

\$1,500,000  
A highlight of the re-envisioned Everett Children’s Adventure Garden, the Treetop Walk is expected to be a major draw for new and returning visitors. It allows guests to have an immersive experience in the canopy of some of the Garden’s tallest trees.

## Discovery Plaza

\$750,000  
This plaza serves as the primary meeting point for visiting groups. Activities are led by Explainers making this a vibrant active location.

## Pond Pavilion

\$750,000  
This serene setting serves as the focal point for pond ecology, allowing visitors to learn about aquatic plants and animals, and bogs.

## Lowland Scramble

\$750,000  
The Lowland Scramble welcomes visitors upon entry to ECAG, and focuses on soil science, wetland plants, and swamp adaptations.

## Boulder Scramble Named

\$750,000  
The Boulder Scramble teaches about geology and plants that live on rocks (lithophytes). It is one of the most active environments for children’s play and discovery.

## Oak Grove

\$500,000  
Located between the Pond Pavilion and Bird Meadow, Oak Grove focuses on tree biology and life cycle, and gives an in depth look at leaf litter and soil invertebrates.



## Bird Meadow Named

\$500,000  
Bird Meadow introduces young learners to bird ecology, bird watching, and nest building.

## Seedling Circle Named

\$300,000  
Seedling Circle will provide our youngest visitors with an active educational play area, and a gathering space for all to enjoy Story Time, music, and the arts.

## Welcome Garden

\$250,000  
This entry to ECAG serves as the first drop in point for visitors to orient themselves to the Children’s Adventure Garden. It will include a ticketing booth, wayfinding maps, and Explainers welcoming guests.

## Adventure Point

\$250,000  
Adventure Point, overlooking ECAG, is a special events space available for private rentals.

## Atrium in Steere Discovery Center Named

\$250,000  
The entrance to the Lynda and William Steere Discovery Center.

## Sun Central Special Exhibit Space

\$250,000  
Sun Central is a flexible program and special exhibit space for seasonal highlights like pumpkins. It is also a popular location for guest programming.

## Nature Quest

\$100,000  
Nature Quest is a mobile experience that invites children and adults to investigate nature in the Everett Children’s Adventure Garden.

## Story Walk

\$100,000  
Located in the Lowland Scramble, the Story Walk provides seasonal opportunities for literary programming related to plants and plant life.

## Story Time at Hillside Meadow Named

\$100,000  
The Story Time Area is a popular destination for children to engage with plant stories and the environment around them.

## Puppet Theater

\$100,000  
The Puppet Theater is located in the Dodge Plaza and offers children an opportunity for imaginative play.





Rendering of Treetop Walk in Evergreen Hideaway

# ECAG Educational Programs

## Teen Explainers

ECAG is home to the Explorer Program, a competitive internship program for local high school and college-aged students to become trained educators who facilitate science and nature activities for young learners and families. Through this service learning program, NYBG staff equip youth to expand their science knowledge while helping them gain practical work experience, develop problem-solving and interpersonal skills, make connections with adults and peers, and assume leadership roles within their community.



130–150

Teen Explainers trained annually



## Family Programs

Teen Explainers lead the way for hands-on science activities for drop-in programs visitors on weekday afternoons and all day each weekend. Resigtered programs like the Nature Explorers are specially designed for young children and their caregivers to explore ECAG at a scale just right for little nature lovers. Each session includes songs, stories, and take-home projects.



## Summer Camps

ECAG is a main hub for science- and nature-themed summer camps. Designed for grades K–8, camps feature outdoor explorations, science investigations, and behind-the-scenes tours. Each week takes full advantage of NYBG’s vast plant collections and unique habitats.

## School Groups

School visits at NYBG provide access to high-quality education programs that bridge the learning gap for underserved communities in the Bronx. Often, these visits are the spark that young learners need to inspire them to care for and act to protect nature.

36,000

Children come to NYBG as part of school groups—at least one third pass through ECAG year-round.



For more information on the renovation of the Everett Children's Adventure Garden, naming opportunities, or ways to support Children's Education at NYBG, contact:

Isaac W. K. Thweatt  
*Chief Advancement Officer*  
718.817.8775  
[ithweatt@nybg.org](mailto:ithweatt@nybg.org)



# NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN