

EVERETT CHILDREN'S ADVENTURE GARDEN



Dedication Opportunities
as of November 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 revitalized 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 includes new, refreshed hardscaping and plantings across the landscape, and updated signage that reflects current science and environmental pedagogy. It also introduces several exciting new spaces and facilities.

New to the landscape is 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 has been improved with a new boardwalk and viewing platforms.

Finally, both of the existing educational buildings received 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—is now accessible to all visitors. The renovation was completed in Spring 2025.

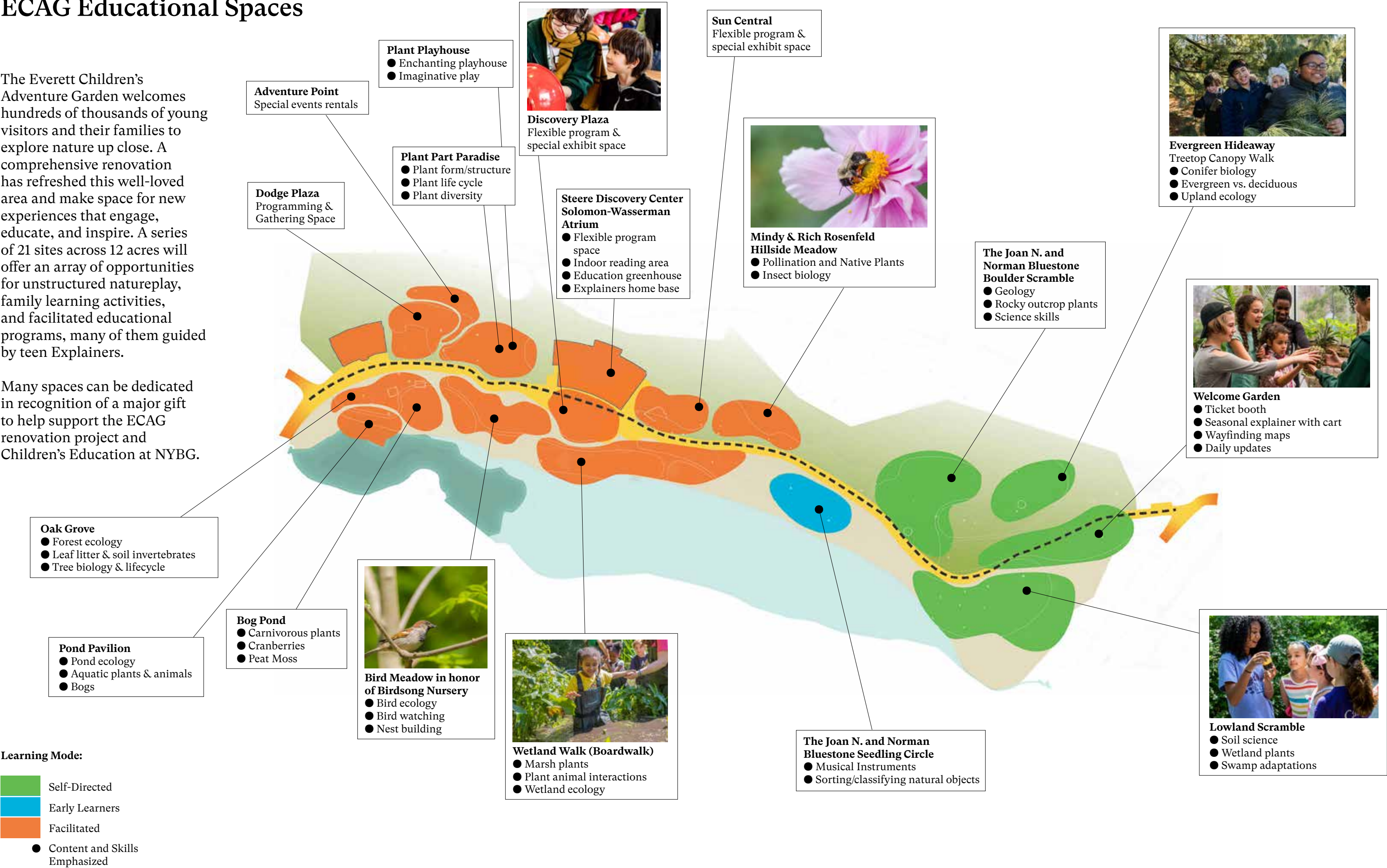
Donor recognition, including naming and dedication opportunities (see pages 4–5), is available for gifts made towards this project.



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 has refreshed 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 dedicated in recognition of a major gift to help support the ECAG renovation project and Children's Education at NYBG.



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 Reserved
\$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.

The Joan N. and Norman Bluestone Boulder Scramble Dedicated
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.

Plant Playhouse
\$750,000
Nestled in the trees of Plant Part Paradise, this brightly colored and enchanting playhouse invites children inside for imaginative play while offering expansive views of the garden outside.

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 in honor of Birdsong Nursery Dedicated
Bird Meadow introduces young learners to bird ecology, bird watching, and nest building.



The Joan N. and Norman Bluestone Seedling Circle Dedicated
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.

The Bog Pond
\$250,000
In the heart of Oak Grove, the Bog Pond is a child height raised bed of fun and discovery for young visitors to encounter carnivorous wetland plants, cranberries, peat moss, and so much more.

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

Solomon-Wasserman Atrium Dedicated
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.

The Reading Nook
\$200,000
This cozy corner inside the Steere Discovery Center encourages children to explore the natural world through storytelling.

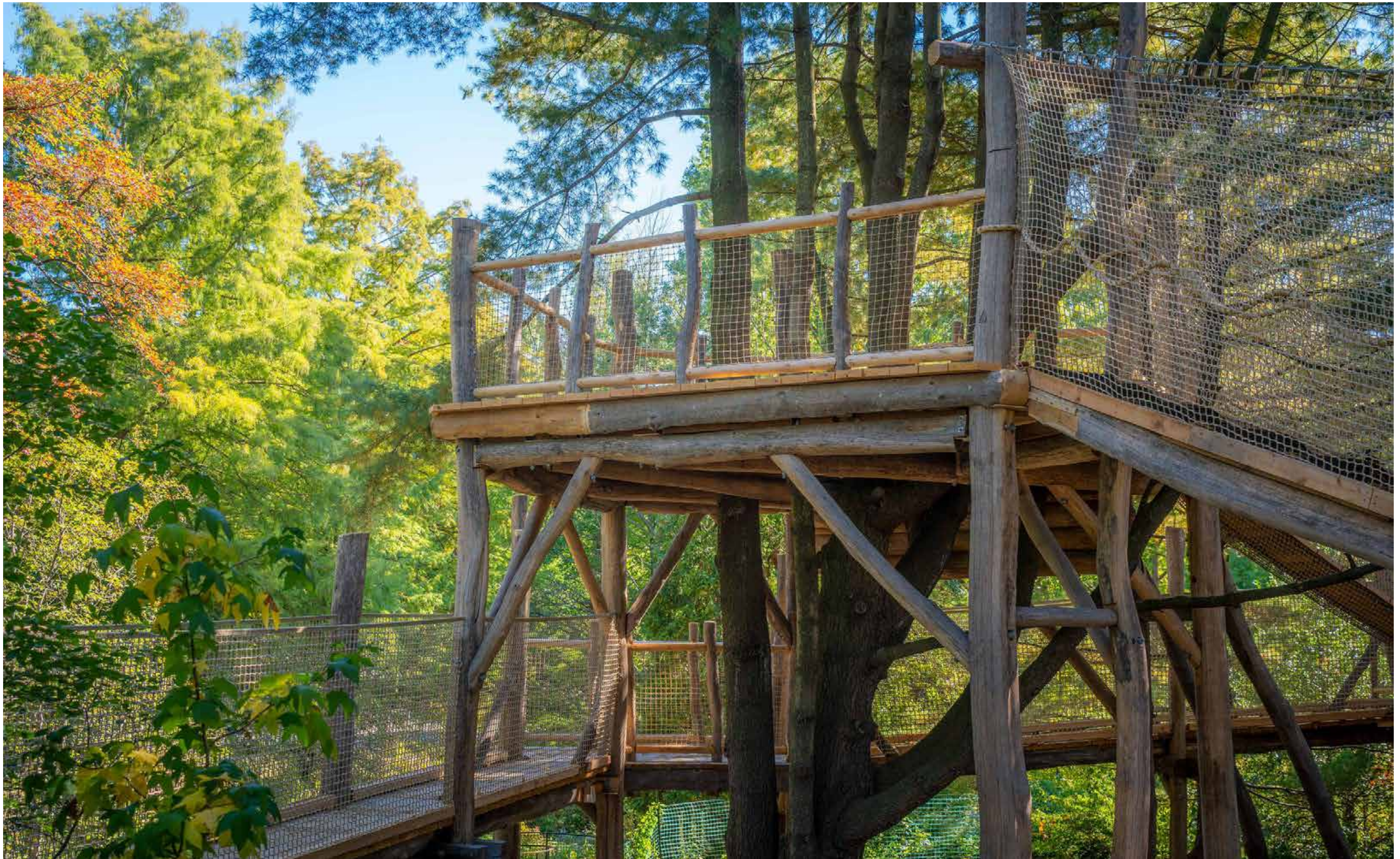


Nature Quest
\$100,000
Nature Quest is a mobile experience that invites children and adults to investigate nature in the Everett Children’s Adventure Garden.

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

Mindy & Rich Rosenfeld Hillside Meadow Dedicated
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.



Completed 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.



125

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.

40,000

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:

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NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN