

Science Barge Field Trip Frequently Asked Questions

We are excited to have you on board the Science Barge!
We have included this FAQ to make your visit the best it can be.

What to Expect on Your Visit

- A **60 minute** visit will involve an intensive tour of the Barge including information on our hydroponic and aquaponic growing systems, germination and the parts of plants, fruits and pollination, the Hudson River's unique ecosystem, sustainable energy (solar panels and wind turbines) and composting. A more detailed description of each station can be found on our website.
- A **90 minute** visit will include a 30 minute activity of your choice in addition to the 60 minute Barge tour. Please select an activity prior to your program date if possible.
- A **120 minute** visit will include either one 60 minute activity, lunch education program, or two 30 minute activities in addition to the 60 minute Barge tour. Please select activity prior to your program date.

Are Barge visits rain or shine?

We are fully equipped for all types of weather on the Barge. Our outdoor pavilion ensures we can accept student groups regardless of rain, wind and other inclement weather conditions. The head educator for the day reserves the right to call and cancel a program in the event of extreme weather; high winds or thundershowers, however.

What should students wear?

As our activities take place outdoors, please ensure students are dressed appropriately for the weather. We recommend that even on cold days, students wear layers they can remove as it may still be warm in the greenhouse. For sunny days we also recommend sunscreen.

Are there bathrooms on the Barge?

We have a composting toilet but it is intended for emergency bathroom use only, as it can only accommodate 15 flushes daily. There are public bathrooms in the Yonkers train station and the library, which are both within a block from the Barge. We recommend long distance groups arrive early in order to use these restrooms before coming on board. Groups staying for a 3-hour program will be given a 15 minute window to travel to the nearest public restroom after the Green Lunch Challenge is completed.

Can we eat lunch on the Barge?

We only permit student groups to eat lunch as part of the Lunch Education program. There is space in the park outside, and across the street in the Daylighting Park's outdoor classroom for students to picnic provided that they dispose of their own waste. The Barge regularly has more than one tour booked in a day, and does not have a municipal trash pickup, so it is difficult for us to accommodate groups for unreserved lunches. We do NOT offer lunches as part of the program.

Is the Barge wheelchair accessible?

The Barge is completely wheelchair accessible; we have a ramp for getting on and off our gangplank and ramps throughout the Barge to ensure equal access for all.