

# ADVENTURE JOURNAL



Take a walk in Battery Park City!  
Look, Listen, and Journal!



NEW YORK  
STATE OF  
OPPORTUNITY.

Battery Park  
City Authority

Hi there, I'm Finn the fish, and I was chosen by kids in the neighborhood to be your Adventure Journal tour guide! I've lived in Battery Park City all my life. Well, right next door, anyway, in the Hudson River. Today, the water I live in is cleaner, and the shellfish I love to eat are coming back.

Take a walk around the parks next to my home, and you'll see beautiful native plants, proper containers for recycling, and everywhere, workers and visitors doing their best to make sure Battery Park City stays welcoming, healthy, and resilient.



How do you think the OysterToadfish got its name?





This Journal belongs to: \_\_\_\_\_

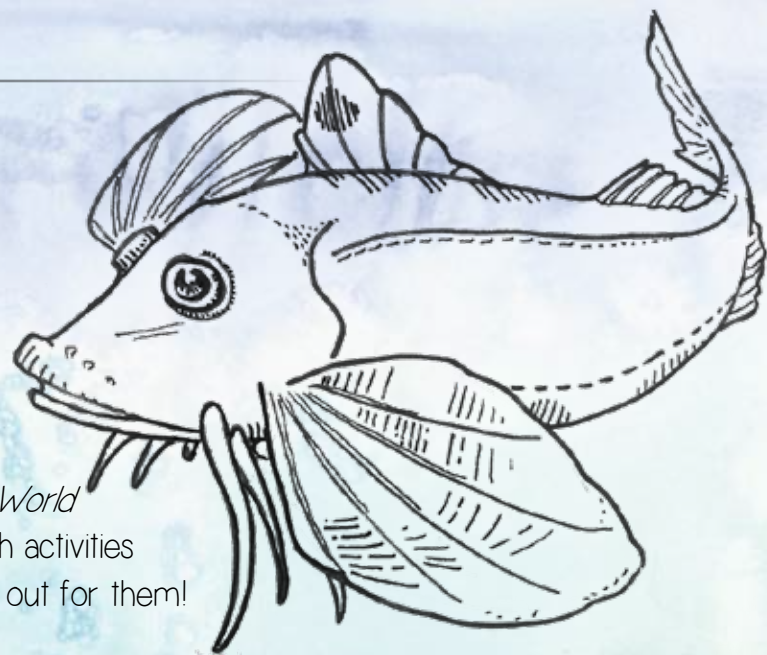
Names have power!

They help us relate to the world around us

Does your name have a special meaning  
for you or your family?

Carry this journal as you enjoy Battery Park City.

These are my friends from Tom Otterness' *The Real World*  
sculpture garden in Rockefeller Park. They pop up with activities  
and fun facts about Battery Park City, so keep an eye out for them!



Use the blank spaces in this journal to draw what  
makes certain areas of Battery Park City special to you.

These animals also live in the Hudson River. If you were in charge of naming,  
what would you call them?

Our friend, the Monarch Butterfly, can travel 3,000 miles to get to her winter home in the mountains of Mexico. That's a long and dangerous trip for a little insect!

As you walk through Wagner Park in the summer, you might notice many types of flowering plants, especially milkweed- the Monarch's favorite food.

See if you can find this "host plant!"  
In the fall look for seed pods like these.



SWEET GUM



MILKWEED





Like any good rest stop, the gardens of Battery Park City are planned by horticulturists so that travelers can enjoy good food from native plants and find shelter to rest along their long journey, or stay and reproduce.

What is a horticulturist?

Take a guess, and ask someone you know to help you find the definition.



Fun Fact: from its earliest days, the Battery Park City Authority has been committed to green practices. We plant native species, regulate water usage, make our own compost, and encourage recycling. We all need to work together to make this a welcoming space for all beings. When you walk through the park, think about ways you can help pitch in!

South Cove is both a landscape and a piece of living, public art.

Spend a while here and you'll see pilings in the water, a visual reminder of the past when piers and docks dotted the Hudson River. Did you know that underwater structures like these make a great habitat for fish and other marine animals?

Here, you can sit on boulders and watch the blue LED lights of the cove glimmer on the river as the tides come and go.



Drawing is a great way to train your brain. Spend some time in South Cove and practice drawing what you see. Focus on shadows and light, angles and curves.



Do any birds or other animals visit while you are sketching?



Keep an eye on the tall Cedars of Lebanon, to the south of the bridge. You might spot a Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, or Yellow-bellied Sapsucker enjoying the view along with you.

In late summer, watch for hummingbirds. They migrate along the coast every year, and the Orange Trumpet Vine flowers provide a welcome rest stop on their long journey!



Share your sightings with us:  
#bpcparks

Learn to Bird! Observing wildlife takes patience.  
Use these prompts to help you get started:

Colors \_\_\_\_\_

Size \_\_\_\_\_

Location Spotted \_\_\_\_\_

Beak or Bill Shape \_\_\_\_\_

Other Distinguishing Traits \_\_\_\_\_

Species Name or Best Guess \_\_\_\_\_



Animals (and people, too!) migrate for many different reasons. For many species, the paths they take to get from point A to point B are constants and have been used for many generations.

These pathways have been used long before the first Europeans arrived here, in what we now call New York City.

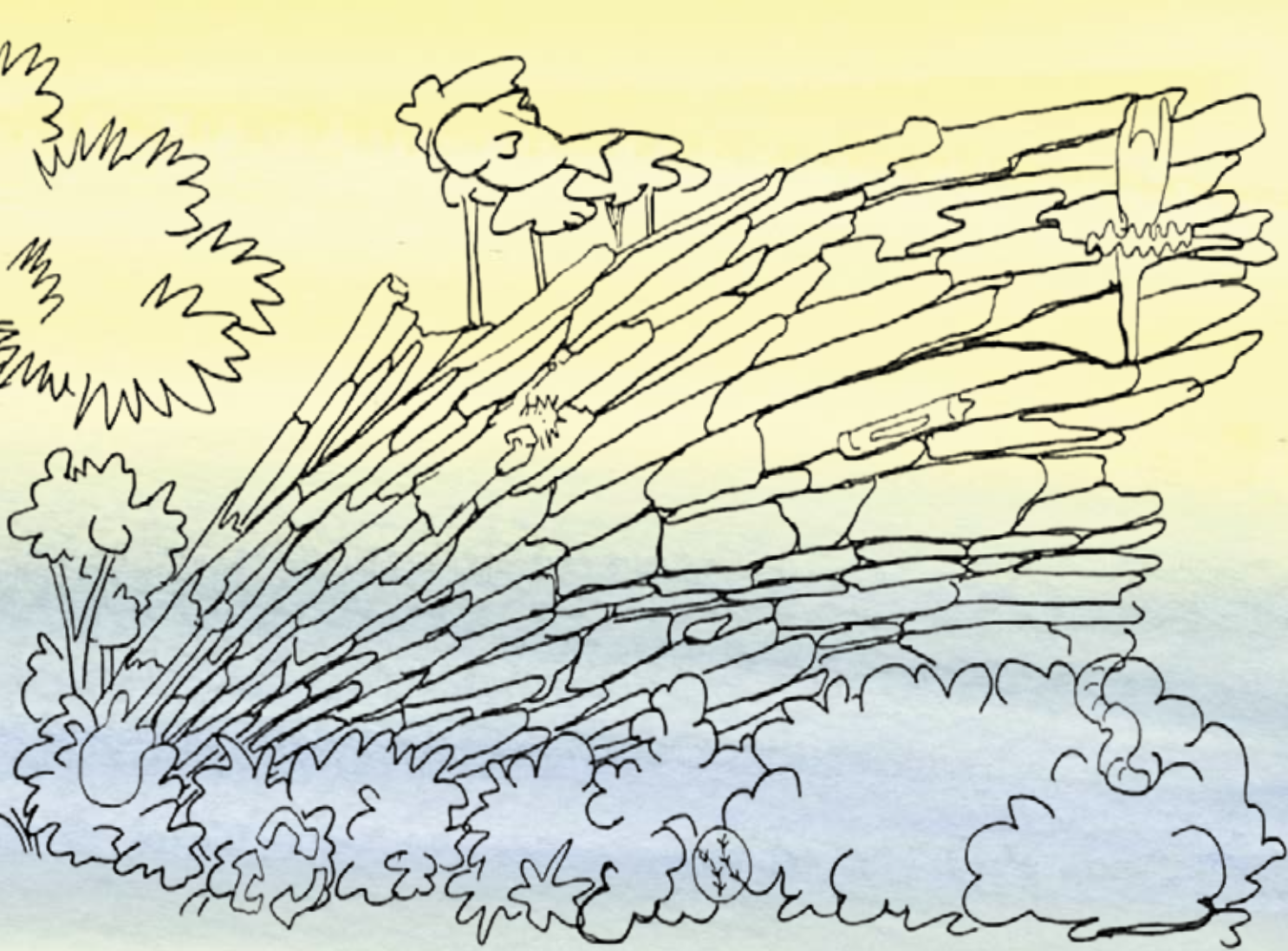
NYC is located along the Atlantic Flyway! Although you can't see it from their perspective, birds and insects use this "migration superhighway" to travel safely and easily.

Teardrop Park is an important rest stop on this flyway, filled with places to rest and eat.

Sit in Teardrop Park a while and take a moment to think:  
Where do you live? Has your family always lived there?  
Can you find these hidden pictures?





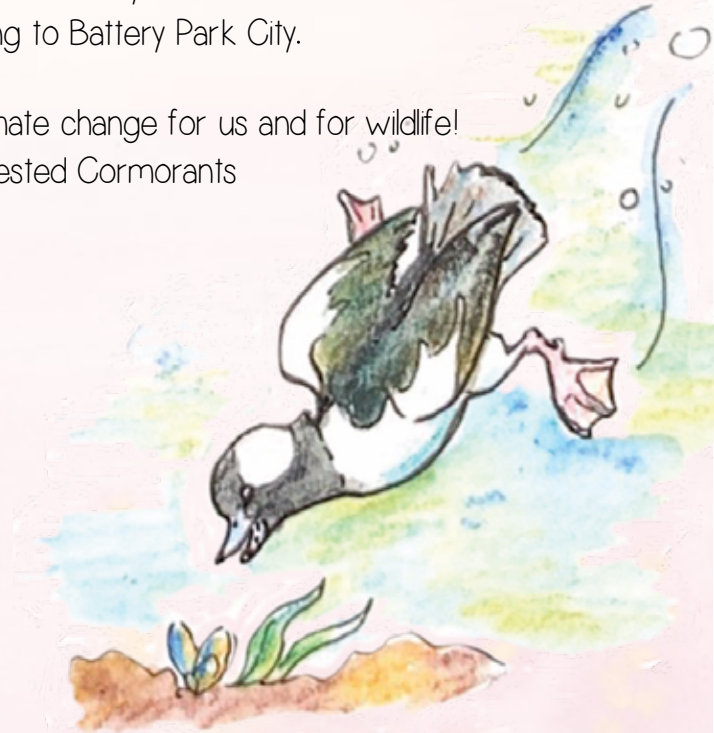


A warmer climate means that sea levels will rise. In many places around the world. Rising water is reducing habitats for people and wildlife. In BPC, we are working to protect the environment and the people, animals and plants who live here.

Battery Park City's waterfront is a special place, and we want it to stay that way for a long time.

BPCA is working on ways to change and adapt to ensure a healthy and sustainable future. Keep an eye out in the coming years for changes coming to Battery Park City.

It is important to create a shoreline that is resilient to climate change for us and for wildlife! Diving birds hunt for fish year round Look for Double-crested Cormorants with outstretched wings in the summer, and for small Bufflehead ducks in the winter.





## Creature Feature!

**Who:** Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) a native diving bird

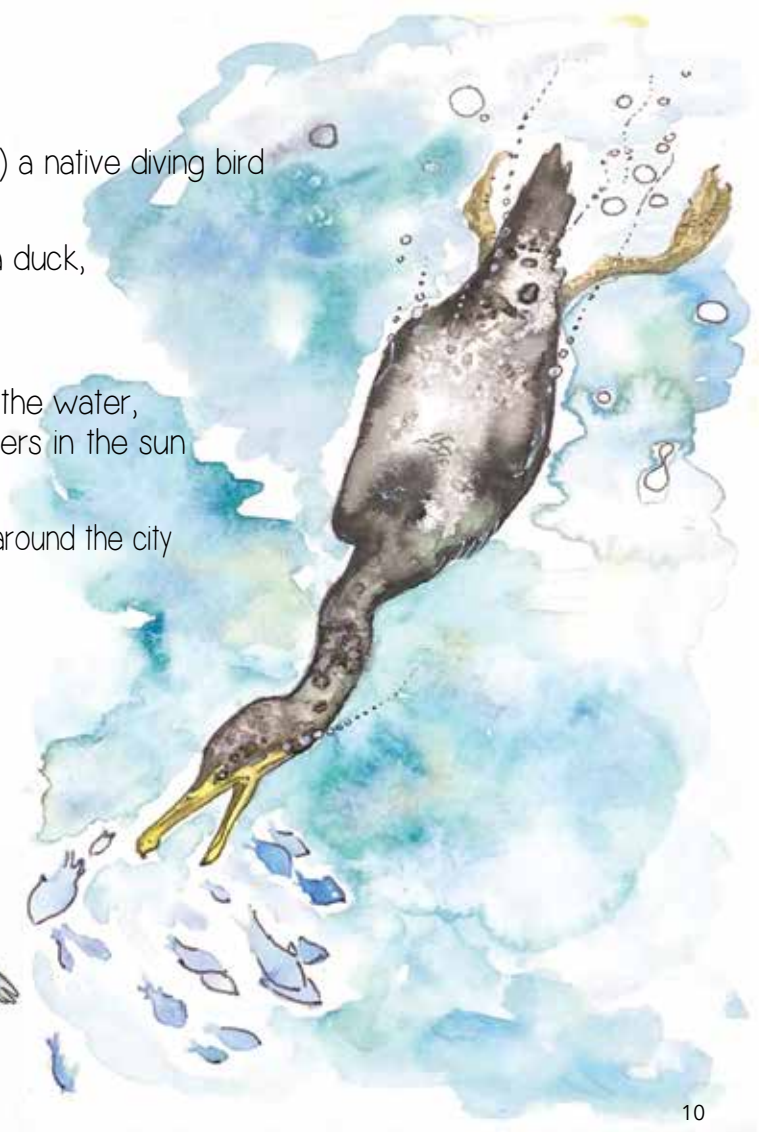
**What:** a dark silhouette with a long neck, larger than a duck, with shiny black feathers

**Where:** swimming in the river with their heads above the water, or perched with wings outstretched, drying their feathers in the sun

**When:** spotted during the warmer months in the river and around the city

**Why:** an important part of our marine ecosystem

You can also observe Cormorants perched on the pilings of South Cove, spreading their wings to dry their feathers from all that time they spend diving.



What other animals do you observe?

# ON TRACK For a sustainable future!

On Earth Day, 2020,  
BPCA's 75 Battery Place Facility became  
Zero Waste certified. We diverted over  
90% of our waste from landfills!



"Zero Waste" means  
reducing, reusing, and  
recycling so that no materials  
go into landfills.

Scientists report that humanity's carbon footprint has impacted our climate, making it warmer. As Earth's climate continues to warm, it will have devastating consequences for everything living, including us.  
But we can make a difference!

The trees in BPC do more than  
provide animals with food and shelter.

The canopy- or top layer of  
trees- absorbs sunlight and provides  
shade. This helps make the  
neighborhood cooler and more  
comfortable in the summer, another way  
BPCA reduces our carbon footprint.

Most of the vehicles BPCA workers drive are  
electric. That means no exhaust fumes and a  
smaller carbon footprint.





# you can Help!

## YES

fresh/ frozen raw veggies

fresh/ frozen fruit

eggs/ eggshells

coffee grounds

cut flowers

## NO

meat or fish (and bones)

vegetables cooked in oils

cat litter

metal

plastic

glass



What is a carbon footprint?

Ask someone you know to help you with the definition.

Hint: it is NOT what you leave on your floors when you come inside from playing.

## Compost with us!

When you are in Battery Park City, look out for green compost bins where you can drop your food scraps.

BPCA workers will collect the materials and bring them to our facility at 75 Battery Place.

This is where the magic happens!

All those compostables get stirred up, and after a while, those scraps break down into nutrient-rich soil that we use throughout BPC.



Sustainability is personal. A sustainable lifestyle involves cooperation!

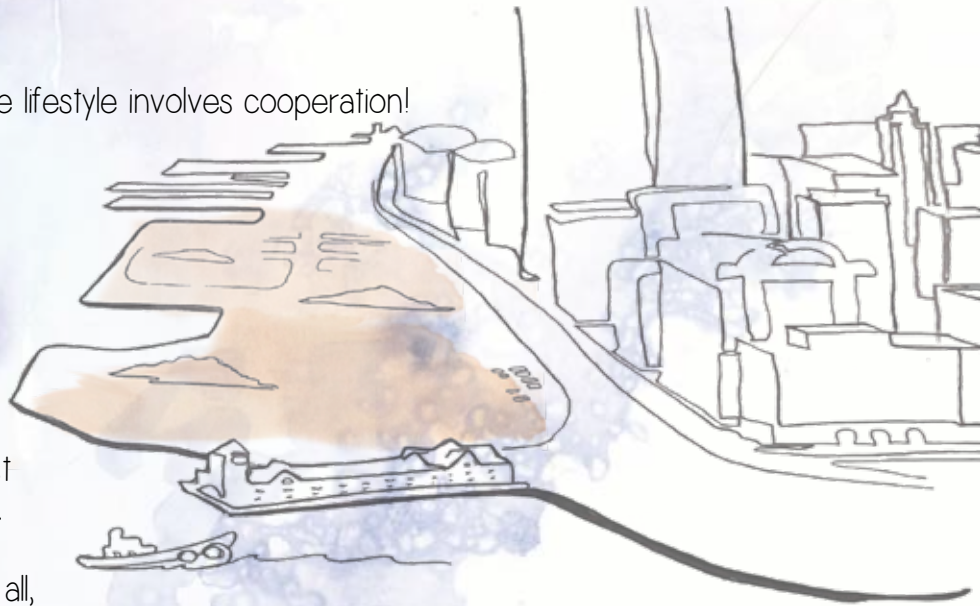
The Monarch Butterfly  
wouldn't visit Battery Park City  
without the milkweed.

The milkweed wouldn't flourish  
without compost in the rich soil.

The gardener couldn't lay compost  
if nobody contributed kitchen scraps.

The changes we make influence us all,  
animals and plants, winter, summer spring and fall.

When we think of living green, what does that mean?







What does the future look like to you?

Journal or draw what you'd like to see in Battery Park City!

Share your ideas with us: #bpcparks





## Battery Park City Authority

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