

KIDS DISCOVER THE TRAIL!

**A Collaboration of
Ithaca Public Education Initiative
Discovery Trail
Ithaca City School District**



**Connecting Elementary Schools
and the Discovery Trail**

**Thanks to the Triad Foundation
for making this report possible.**

KIDS DISCOVER THE TRAIL!

Program Description

Kids Discover the Trail! provides curriculum-based field trips to the eight sites of the Discovery Trail, and site-specific books to take home, for all Ithaca City School District (ICSD) students in grades Pre-K through 5. This program is funded by gifts from local foundations, businesses, and community members, and is supported by ICSD.



Program Goals

- Enhance school experience through curriculum-based learning.
- Provide equal access to Discovery Trail sites.
- Promote understanding and respect among elementary students from different neighborhoods.
- Expand community awareness of the resources of the Discovery Trail.

Here's How Kids Discover the Trail!

Elementary grades are linked with Discovery Trail organizations. Individual classrooms from different schools visit in pairs and share the day at the site. Most also have shared activities before and after the visits. Curriculum meets NYS Standards.

Pre-Kindergarten

Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art at Cornell

ANIMALS IN ART

KDT! BOOK: *Shapes*, Museum of Modern Art, or
Look, Look, Look, Nancy Elizabeth Wallace

Kindergarten

Tompkins County Public Library

BOOKS, FRIENDSHIP, AND FAMILY

KDT! BOOK: *Library Lion*, Michelle Knudson

First Grade

Museum of the Earth at PRI

DINOSAUR SCIENCE

KDT! BOOK: *Digging Up Dinosaurs*, Aliki

Second Grade

Sciencenter

POWER THE FUTURE

KDT! BOOK: *Our Earth, Clean Energy*, Peggy Hock

Third Grade

Cornell Plantations

WILDFLOWER EXPLORATION

KDT! BOOK: *Wildflowers: A Peterson's First Guide*

Fourth Grade

The History Center in Tompkins County

EIGHT SQUARE SCHOOLHOUSE: 19TH CENTURY LIFE

KDT! BOOK: *The Secret School*, Avi

Fifth Grade

Cornell Lab of Ornithology

EXPLORING HABITATS

KDT! BOOK: *The Birds of Sapsucker Woods*, Jeffrey V. Wells
and Allison Childs Wells

Cayuga Nature Center

ROPES COURSE AND ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

KDT! BOOK: *The Climb, Book 2*, Gordon Korman

“I love that this program allows all of our children to experience the rich resources of our community. We have many students who would never go to any of the museums or the library if it were not done as part of school. Thank you for providing this enriching experience for us.”

—CAROLINE TEACHER



“I think that exposure to the Discovery Trail sites is a wonderful experience for all children and having it as a common experience will help to build a feeling of community across the school district.”

—BELLE SHERMAN TEACHER

“We were so thrilled when our daughter came home with the beautiful hardcover book and were so delighted by the generosity that allowed so many children to each have a copy. We have three children, and they all have been enjoying the book ever since, even acting it out!”

—PARENT



A Collaboration of IPEI, the Discovery Trail, and ICSD

We invite you to join us in supporting Kids Discover the Trail!

IPEI handles donations supporting the program which is part of the IPEI mission of connecting school and community. Your financial support and encouragement are very important to this program.

I/We would like to make a tax deductible gift of \$ _____

Name (s) (as you wish to be acknowledged in the Annual Report)

Address

City

State

Zip

Phone

Email

Check enclosed for \$ _____
Online contribution: www.ipei.org

Credit card: Mastercard Visa amount \$ _____

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Exp. date _____

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Please contact me about:

- Volunteering with Kids Discover the Trail!
- Kids Discover the Trail! Site Sponsorships
- Discovery Trail site(s) _____
- Ithaca Public Education Initiative (IPEI)
- Donating securities
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Return this form to: IPEI, PO Box 4268, Ithaca, NY, 14852-4268
(607) 256-IPEI (4734)

Thank you!

Gifts to IPEI are tax deductible.



Families Visit

Take-home materials including free admission passes encourage families to visit. This program seeks to increase use of all Discovery Trail sites by expanding public awareness of their resources.

Classrooms Connect

Each year pairs of classrooms from different Ithaca schools are linked, and most visit their Discovery Trail sites together. Fifth graders have two opportunities to share academic experiences with their peers as they prepare for the transition to middle school.

How You Can Participate

Make a Gift:

Mail check (payable to IPEI/KDT) to:

IPEI, PO Box 4268, Ithaca, NY 14852

Credit card: call IPEI at (607) 256-4734

Online: www.ipei.org

Volunteer to Help:

For more information

please contact:

ipei@ipei.org

Thank you!

Community support makes *Kids Discover the Trail!* possible. Your charitable gift of any amount is welcomed and needed. Join these generous donors to help our kids discover the trail!

2008–2009 Donors

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Special Thanks to our 2009 Program Sponsor:
BorgWarner Morse TEC

Trail Builders (\$10,000–\$14,999)

Anonymous
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Triad Foundation

Thank you!

Trail Guides (\$5,000–\$9,999)

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Ithaca Public Education Initiative

The Ithaca Public Education Initiative (IPEI) is a community-based, all-volunteer, nonprofit organization that facilitates community connections and support for students and teachers of the Ithaca City School District through engagement, collaboration, gifts, and grants.



Discovery Trail

The Discovery Trail is a group of eight educational organizations based in Ithaca, NY. The only collaboration of its kind, the Discovery Trail promotes awareness and understanding of the connections among art, history, literature, science, and the natural world.



Ithaca City School District

The mission of ICSD is to educate every student to become a lifelong learner; to foster academic, social, emotional and physical development; to nurture an understanding and a respect for all people in a multicultural and multiethnic world; and to promote responsible citizenship in a democracy.

**For more information,
ipei@ipei.org or (607) 256-4734**

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