



## National Park Service Educational Programs

Castle Clinton National Monument has seen many changes. The structure was one of the New York Harbor defenses built just before the War of 1812. Later it became a great entertainment complex, then an important immigrant processing station and then an aquarium.

The National Park Service offers a variety of free Ranger-led tours of the site specially designed for groups. Programs include:



**The Many Lives of Castle Clinton:** Students participate in an NPS Ranger-led tour explaining how Castle Clinton and surrounding Battery Park have been “re-invented” over the course of nearly 200 years, and how the changes to the area have reflected changing social needs, concerns and attitudes both nationally and in the city of New York.

*Elementary Standards* addressed in this program include: 1.1a, 1.4c, 2.2a, 2.2d, 2.4c, 3.1e, 3.2a, and 4.1d

*Middle School Standards:* 1.2b, 1.4d, 2.2a, 2.4d, and 3.1d

**Harbor Defense and the War of 1812:** This program covers how Castle Clinton served as the last line of defense in a larger system of forts protecting New York Harbor. Additionally, the program expands on the history of the harbor and strategic value of the port in the War of 1812 and today.

*Elementary Standards* addressed in this program include: 1.4c, 2.4c, 3.1a, 3.1e, 4.1a, 4.1b

*Middle School Standards:* 1.2b, 1.4d, 2.2c, 3.1c, 3.1d

**Castle Clinton as Castle Garden, the Immigration Years:** The creation of Castle Garden, the first official immigration processing center in the nation was a monumental achievement and stands as one of the finest human expressions in our nation’s history. A National Park Ranger will lead the class through the history of the building focusing on immigration in New York prior to Ellis Island.

*Elementary Standards* addressed in this program include: 1.1a, 1.4c, 2.2a, 2.2d, 2.4c, 3.1a, 3.1e, 3.2a, 4.1d, 5.1b, and 5.1c

*Middle School Standards:* 1.2b, 1.4d, 2.2a, 2.2c, 2.4d, and 3.1d

**The National Stage:** Castle Clinton has served symbolically as New York City’s front door and village green for nearly two hundred years. The building and surrounding Battery Park has provided a setting for popular entertainment and welcoming station throughout its existence. This program covers this history with focus on site as a major public gathering place.

*Elementary Standards* addressed in this program include: 1.1a, 1.4c, 2.2a, 2.2d, 2.4c, 3.1e, 3.2a, and 4.1d

*Middle School Standards:* 1.2b, 1.4d, 2.2a, 2.4d, and 3.1d

Please call the Park at (212) 344-7220 for further information or to schedule a program. To learn more about Castle Clinton, please visit our web site at [www.nps.gov/cacl](http://www.nps.gov/cacl).