

# Letchworth Field Trip Teacher Guide

## Before the trip:

- Reserve a pavilion (either Octagon or Lower Falls) to eat lunch and/or discuss features from the hikes, in case of rain. The form is available at the visitor's center in the park. If you want a park expert to guide you through the hikes you can also contact them through the visitor center. It is recommended that at least the teacher do both hikes with the guide before taking students. Ask about the geologic hikes at Lee's Landing and Lower Falls for more information. Visitor's Center phone number: (585) 493-3600
- Go over the rules of the park with the students:
  - It is a carry in carry out park, no garbage is to be left behind.
  - Follow all posted park signs, **ABSOLUTELY NO HORSEPLAY** on the trails and near the water, no walking on walls or off the trails.
  - No plants or rocks are to be picked or taken out of the park.
- Tell students:
  - You are responsible for your own lunches, drinks and snacks.
  - Dress appropriately for the weather (layers and/or rain gear).
  - **NO SANDALS**, closed toes shoes/sneakers are best for wet and slippery rocks/trails.
- Curriculum Preparation:
  - This trip was used as a review for the year so students should be familiar with concepts of rock types, their formation and features, apparent motions of the sun, seasons, weathering, erosion, stream characteristics, plate tectonics, relative dating and use of the Earth Science Reference Tables.
  - It may be useful to do a Google Earth Tour of the entire Letchworth gorge either before or after the trip. An example can be found here: <http://geoscience.stevekluge.com/projects/dlesege/default.html> under Allegheny Plateau.

## After the trip:

- Show students a slide show of pictures of the park during Hurricane Agnes in 1972. This slide show can be found at: <http://www.letchworthparkhistory.com/flood.html>
- Resources:
  - <http://www.letchworthparkhistory.com>
  - <http://nysparks.state.ny.us/parks/info.asp?parkID=12>