

Teacher's Guide- Bayview Park

Educational Center Capacity: 30

Park Tour

After parking in the designated grassy area, start your journey from the information kiosk and make your way to the educational center. There you can enjoy a brown bag lunch or an outdoor classroom discussion. Continue along the nature trail past the historic oak hammock and native vegetation until you come to the wondrous community butterfly garden. From the garden, you can make your way down to the coastal wetlands to view the local mangrove habitat and a few members of the forest wildlife. Then, gather under the beach overlook to take in the whole experience of the park as you look out onto Old Tampa Bay. There is educational signage located throughout the park.

History Highlights

- James P. McMullen, A.K.A. Captain Jim, came to this area around 1842
- In 1865, the first schoolhouse was erected in Bayview
- People came to Bayview from all over Pinellas County to collect their mail, which came across the bay by boat
- In 1880 a bridge was built across Alligator Creek
- In 2005, the park was named after Myron A. Smith, one of Clearwater's first pioneers

Beach Wildlife

While at the beach overlook, be on the lookout for this beach wildlife

- Horseshoe Crab
- Sea Oats
- Great Blue Heron
- Black Mangrove

- Beach Dune Sunflower
- Tarpon
- Railroad Vine
- Prickly Pear Cactus

Forest Wildlife

Be on the hunt for the following forest wildlife as you travel through the park

- Milkweed
- Monarch Butterfly
- Tiger Swallowtail
- Firebush
- Ruby Throated Hummingbird
- Passionvine
- Zebra Butterfly
- Gulf Fritillary

- Florida Privet
- Yellow Necklace Pod
- Elderberry
- Lantana
- Blanket Flower
- Simpson Stopper
- Beautyberry
- Shield Fern

Activity Quiz

1. **Q:** Which kinds of butterflies do Milkweeds attract?
A: Monarchs and Swallowtails
2. **Q:** When was the first schoolhouse erected in Bayview?
A: 1865
3. **Q:** What was James P. McMullen's nickname?
A: Captain Jim
4. **Q:** Mangroves are home to which kinds of fish?
A: Snapper, snook, tarpon, jack fish, and sheepshead
5. **Q:** What is the name of the crab that is used to fight disease?
A: Horseshoe Crab
6. **Q:** What are the two main Mangroves species?
A: Red and Black
7. **Q:** Once fallen the _____ decompose quickly and become a food source for the wildlife living within the root system?
A: Mangrove leaves