



# An Island for All

## INSTRUCTIONS

If you had the chance to create your own island park for *everyone* to enjoy, what would it be like?

- 1. Think About Your Favorite Parks.** How do you feel when you are in your favorite park? What does it look like? What do you like to do when you're there? Discuss with a partner or write in your notebook.
- 2. Identify Defining Features.** What makes your favorite park special to you? Write down a list of the things you think are important in your favorite park. We will call these *park features*. Some examples of park features include swings and easy walking paths.
- 3. Consult With Your Community.** Think about all of the people who might want to visit your park. Take some time to talk with three other people and write down what *features* they look for in a park and write them down. Create a combined list of *park features* that includes your favorite things and the favorite things of the people that you spoke with.
- 4. Plan Your Island Park.** Imagine that you have been assigned to create a new park on one of the Boston Harbor Islands. What would a park look like if it had all of these features? Think about what you might consider in the design of your island park?

**Time:** 30 minutes - 1 hour +

**Materials:** Blank paper, drawing supplies, a notebook and pencil (optional)

- 5. Consider.** Think about these questions: What shape is your island? What can people do on the island when they visit? How will people get there? What are some features that you can include to make sure *everyone* feels welcome and has something fun to do at your park?
- 6. Create Your Island Park.** Take all of your thoughts and ideas, and combine them to draw the design for your park. Make sure you take time to include all of the *park features* that are on your list.
- 7. Name Your Island.** Each island in the Boston Harbor has a unique name that means something special. For example, Spectacle Island was given that name because it looks like a pair of "spectacles" (glasses) from above. What would you name *your* island?
- 8. Share Your New Island.** A great thing about the Boston Harbor Islands is that they belong to *everyone*. Share your new island with others so that they too can enjoy the new park! Don't forget to ask for comments and suggestions as you share! You can also share your island plans using #FindYourParkAnywhere on social media!

## \*LEARN MORE

Spectacle Island is a special place because park planners had the opportunity to design the park nearly from scratch! Learn more about the process of recreating Spectacle Island on our website, [www.bostonharborislands.org/spectacle-island](http://www.bostonharborislands.org/spectacle-island)

### QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER:

- What are some **park features** that help make people feel welcome?
- What are some changes that you might suggest to make your favorite park in your community even better?
- A person who designs parks is called a **landscape architect**. What do you think it's like to have that job? Is that a job that you would enjoy?

