Dear Teachers,

Thank you for being a part of the Home Sweet Habitat school program at the Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum. This program is an interactive outdoor activity with the following components:

a) Pre-lesson activity: color mapping by numbers.
   Children will be given a pre-made map of Pelham Bay Park and color in paved areas, woodlands, swamps, and golf courses. They will then draw conclusions as to where they think they might see more plants and animals.

b) A hike and guided exploration of the Bartow-Pell Woods in Pelham Bay Park.
   This hike will be about 15-20 minutes in the woods surrounding the mansion. Children will learn about forest regeneration, the land’s history from Native Americans through the Bartows, and finally exploring the wild habitat it is now.

c) Post-lesson graphing of the animals and plants observed.

Because this is an outdoor program, it is important that students follow special rules. Students must be told to wear long pants and closed-toe shoes. In warmer weather please have children apply insect repellent outside. Please remember that repellents reduce your chances of mosquito or tick bites. Pack your own repellent, BPMM does not provide or sell bug spray. During the lesson, children must stay on the trail at all times. Teachers should inform the instructor of any allergies.

The program covers the following science topics:

- Systems thinking:
  Park as a forest ecosystem
- Forest Regeneration:
  Wild Forest → Farm → Second Growth Forest
- Salt Marsh Ecosystems
- Native Plants and Animals

Again, thank you for your interest and we look forward to working with you!

Sincerely,

The Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum Staff
To explore an area, it’s always good to view a map first so you know where to go and where you might find plants and animals!

Use the key below to color in some of the different places, or possible habitats, of Pelham Bay Park.

1 - Yellow - Orchard Beach
2 - Gray - Parking Lots
3 - Light Green - Golf Course / Play Area
4 - Brown - Garbage Dump
5 - Sky Blue - Marsh or Swamp
6 - Dark Green - Forest