

FreshkillsPark

Example comprehension questions for *Introduction to Freshkills Park*

Introduction to Freshkills is a series of three short videos: “Welcome to Freshkills Park”, “Freshkills Park Science and Research Program”, and “Landfill Infrastructure at Freshkills Park”. The videos on the whole discuss the transformation of Freshkills from a landfill into a park and describe the ways in which the project is a model for sustainability. Below are sample discussion questions to encourage students to think about the planning and development of Freshkills Park.

After watching the “Welcome to Freshkills Park” video:

- The video talks about how Freshkills Park was once the place where New York City sent its garbage. What do you imagine it was like to live near a place like that?
- What benefits does transforming a landfill into a park have?

After watching the “Freshkills Park Science and Research Program” video:

- How many different types of animals did you spot in the video? Were any of them familiar to you?
- Why do you think scientific researchers are interested in studying Freshkills Park?
- The video mentions that the research being done here will “serve as an example for other reclaimed landscapes”. What is a “reclaimed” landscape?

After watching the “Landfill Infrastructure at Freshkills Park” video:

- The video shows the ways in which the garbage at Freshkills was covered and capped and then developed into land for wildlife. What about this process interests you? Do you think that what is being done to turn the Fresh Kills Landfill into Freshkills Park could be done in other places? What might be different in other places and with other types of land?

Activity:

In groups or on their own, have students draw a picture of what they imagine Freshkills Park to look like. It could include animals and plants, infrastructure, landfill layers, or anything else that the videos inspire them to think of related to the park.

Note: Three park projects are currently open to the public: Owl Hollow Soccer Fields, Schmul Park, and the New Springville Greenway. For more information on open and closed park projects, please see our [design and construction updates](#).

