

**Ellis Bird Farm**

**On-site School Programs**

**2019**



## Registration & Program Information

**Ellis Bird Farm  
Box 5090 Lacombe  
AB, T4L 1W7**

**info@ellisbirdfarm.ca  
403-885-4477**

Ellis Bird Farm is proud to provide high calibre hands-on, nature based programming for Central Alberta schools. Thank you for your interest in bringing your students to Ellis Bird Farm!

### FAQ's

- **Registration for the 2019 season will open on February 4, 2019 via an online booking form.** School programs start on May 21, 2019 and run until the end of school year.
- **Registration Process:** Registration requests will be automatically placed sequentially as they are submitted and therefore your request will be processed in the order it is placed. You will receive an email to confirm your program request. Should your requested date not be available, we will offer alternative dates and will do our best to accommodate your class. In early spring, you will receive a detailed form outlining everything you need to know for your trip, as well payment details.
- **Program Length:** We offer two options: two-hour programs (9:30 AM – 11:30 AM or 12:30 PM – 2:30 PM) and four-hour programs (10:00 AM- 2:00 PM).
- **Program Structure:** Our programs consist of stations which students rotate through in smaller groups (at a maximum of 15 students per group). For example, if you have 30 students in your class, they will be split into 2 groups.
- **Minimum Numbers:** For regular school programming, there is a 15-student minimum. If the group is smaller, there is still a \$75.00 minimum charge for the two-hour program and a \$225.00 minimum charge for the four-hour program.
- **Maximum Numbers:** 45 students or less is ideal and the maximum number of students we can accommodate is 60.
- **Chaperones:** Please plan to provide one adult chaperone for each group of students.
- **Weather:** Programs will proceed rain or shine. If your program is cancelled due to extremely inclement weather, we regret that we will not be able to offer an alternate date as our calendar is usually fully booked.



## ELLIS BIRD FARM CLASSIC - Half day or full day program

### Kindergarten to Grade 6

Join us for some fun at Ellis Bird Farm as we explore the site and learn about the different species that live at Ellis Bird Farm. We'll look at some different habitats, get our hands wet as we discover the aquatic creatures that live in our pond and we'll investigate the incredible world of flying creatures.

#### *Curriculum Links:*

This program covers numerous aspects of the 'Alberta Program of Studies Curriculum' from Kindergarten to Grade 6. Curriculum topics may include Needs of Animals and Plants, Small Crawling and Flying Animals, Animal Life Cycles, Plant Growth and Changes, Wetland Ecosystems, Trees and Forests.

#### *Program Stations:*

- Pond Dipping
- Ellis Bird Farm history, grounds and projects
- Tree Cookies
- Additional station topics may include: Owls/Pellets, Bats, Feathers, Beavers and Insect Studies

*\$5.00 per student; 2 hours (add an additional \$5.00 per student for bird feeder building)*

*9:30 AM-11:30 AM or 12:30 PM-2:30 PM*

*\$15.00 per student; 4 hours (price includes one bird feeder per student)*

*10:00 AM – 2:00 PM*



## BIRD NEST BUILDERS - Half day program

### Grade 3

Examine the incredible nest building skills of our avian friends. Students will learn about different types of nests and build a nest using a variety of materials. We will explore the different habitats and food sources of local birds. We will also discover the creatures that live in our ponds.

*Curriculum Links:* Building with a Variety of Materials

*Program Stations:*

- Ellis Bird Farm history, grounds and projects
- Pond Dipping
- Build a Bird Nest

*\$5.00 per student; 2 hours (add an additional \$5.00 per student for bird feeder building)*

*9:30 AM-11:30 AM or 12:30 PM-2:30 PM*



## LIFE EXPLORERS - Half day program

### Grade 3

Explore the circle of life as we examine the life cycles of different creatures at the farm. Investigate the difference between the life cycle of a pond creature and the life cycle of a bird as we explore their habits and habitats.

*Curriculum Links: Animal Life Cycles*

*Program Stations:*

- Ellis Bird Farm history, grounds and projects
- Pond Dipping
- Insect vs. Bird Life Cycle study

*\$5.00 per student; 2 hours (add an additional \$5.00 per student for bird feeder building)*

*9:30 AM -11:30 AM or 12:30 PM-2:30 PM*



## WONDERFUL WASTE - Half day program

### Grade 4

Delve into a world of waste and how it is used in nature. Rummage through a compost pile and find out what kinds of creatures help decompose waste. Take a close look at ants, which are expert decomposers. Discover some common underwater decomposers as we dip for aquatic insects in the pond. Find out why keeping the environment clean is important as we explore the habitats of different creatures living at Ellis Bird Farm.

*Curriculum Links: Waste and Our World*

#### Program Stations:

- Ellis Bird Farm history, grounds and projects
- Un-nature Walk
- Pond Dipping
- Ant Study and Compost Activity

*\$5.00 per student; 2 hours (add an additional \$5.00 per student for bird feeder building)*

*9:30 AM-11:30 AM or 12:30 PM-2:30 PM*



## PLANTS-A-PLENTY - Half day program

### Grade 4

Spend a morning or afternoon exploring a variety of plants at Ellis Bird Farm. We will get up close and personal with some trees, and learn about the wide variety of plant species we encounter every day. Learn about some invasive plant species and help the environment by pulling a few weeds around the Ellis Bird Farm site.

Explore the plants and creatures of the wetlands, tour the different gardens and learn some new ways to use the plants around us.

*Curriculum Links:* Plant Growth and Changes

*Program Stations:*

- Ellis Bird Farm history, grounds and projects
- Tree Game and Wonderful Weeds
- Pond Dipping

*\$5.00 per student; 2 hours (add an additional \$5.00 per student for bird feeder building)*

*9:30 AM-11:30 AM or 12:30 PM-2:30 PM*



## GRADE 3 – Full day program

### Grade 3

This popular program combines the Grade 3 'Life Explorers' and 'Bird Nest Builders' programs. We will explore the circle of life as we examine the life cycles of different creatures at the farm. Investigate the difference between the life cycle of a pond creature and the life cycle of a bird as we explore their habits and habitats. Examine the incredible nest building skills of our avian friends. Students will learn about different types of nests and build their own using a variety of materials.

*Curriculum Links:* Building with a Variety of Materials, Animal Life Cycles

*Program Stations:*

- Ellis Bird Farm history, grounds and projects
- Pond Dipping
- Build a Bird Nest Activity
- Building Bird feeders
- Insect vs. Bird Life Cycle Activity

*\$15.00 per student; 4 hours (price includes one bird feeder per student)*

*10:00 AM-2:00 PM*



## GRADE 4 – Full day program

### Grade 4

Grade 4 students will enjoy the combination of ‘Wonderful Waste’ and ‘Plants-a-Plenty’ programs. Delve into a world of waste and how it is used in nature. Rummage through a compost pile and find out what kinds of creatures help decompose waste. Take a close look at ants, which are expert decomposers. Discover some common underwater decomposers as we dip for aquatic insects in the pond. Find out why keeping the environment clean is important as we explore the habitats of different creatures living at Ellis Bird Farm. We will get up close and personal with some trees, and learn about the wide variety of plant species we encounter every day. Learn about some invasive plant species and help the environment by pulling a few weeds around the Ellis Bird Farm site. Explore the plants and creatures of the wetlands, tour the different gardens and learn some new ways to use the plants around us.

*Curriculum Links:* Waste and Our World, Plant Growth and Changes

#### *Program Stations:*

- Ellis Bird Farm history, grounds and projects
- Pond dipping
- Wonderful Weeds and Tree Game
- Building bird feeders

*\$15.00 per student; 4 hours (price includes bird feeder building)*

*10:00 AM-2:00 PM*



## THE WONDERS OF WETLANDS - Half day or full day program

### Grade 5

Enjoy a wonderful wetland experience at Ellis Bird Farm. Students will study plants and animals through engaging and hands-on activities. We will learn about aquatic ecosystems, learn to classify some wetland species of plants and animals and study adaptations of aquatic invertebrates. We will investigate the food chain, look at some different bird adaptations and habitats and learn how Charlie and Winnie Ellis co-existed with wildlife and inspired the founding of Ellis Bird Farm.

*Curriculum Links: Wetland Ecosystems*

*Program Stations:*

- Classification and Adaptation Activity
- Pond Study
- Re-use vs. Garbage Talk, Un-nature Walk
- Human Involvement and Ellis Bird Farm history, grounds and projects
- Beavers on Our Landscape

*\$5.00 per student; 2 hours (add an additional \$5.00 per student for bird feeder building)*

*9:30 AM-11:30 AM or 12:30 PM-2:30 PM*

*\$15.00 per student; 4 hours (price includes bird feeder building)*

*10:00 AM-2:00 PM*

