

Ellis Bird Farm

On-site School Programs

2020



Registration & Program Information

**Ellis Bird Farm
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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!

Things you should know:

- **Registration for the 2020 season will open on March 2, 2020 via an online booking form.**
- School programs start on May 20, 2020 and run until the end of the school year.
- **Registration Process:** Registration requests will be processed on a first-come first-served basis. You will be sent a receipt email when we receive your booking. We will attempt to accommodate your chosen date and send you a confirmation letter once we have our scheduling completed. At least a week prior to your field trip, you will receive another detailed confirmation letter.
- **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). A four-hour program will include a half-hour lunch break.
- **Program Structure:** Our programs consist of stations which students rotate through in small groups (approximately 15 students per group).
- **Program Rates:** two-hour program cost is \$5.00 per student (feeder building is an additional \$6.00 per student) and four-hour programs include feeder building at \$16.00 per student
- **Minimum Numbers:** There is a \$75.00 minimum charge for the two-hour program and a \$240.00 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 15 students.
- **Weather:** Programs will proceed rain or shine, except for extreme weather events (details to be provided in the confirmation email). In the event of a program cancellation, we regret that we will not likely 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 as we explore the site and learn about the different species that live at Ellis Bird Farm. We'll look at different habitats, identify the aquatic creatures that live in our pond and 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.*

Grade 3 - Half Day Programs

Bird Nest Builders

Examine the incredible nest building skills of our avian friends. Students will build a nest using a variety of materials and learn about different types of nests. We will explore the different habitats, avian physiology and food sources of local birds.

Curriculum Links: Building with a Variety of Materials

Life Explorers

Explore the life cycles of different creatures at Ellis Bird Farm, by investigating the difference between pond creatures and birds, while we explore their habits and habitats.

Curriculum Links: Animal Life Cycles



Grade 4 - Half Day Programs

Wonderful Waste

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*

Plants-A-Plenty

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 ways to use the plants around us.

Curriculum Links: *Plant Growth and Changes*



Grade 3 - Full Day Program

This popular program combines the Grade 3 'Life Explorers' and 'Bird Nest Builders' programs. Please see above for details.

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

Grade 4 - Full Day Program

Grade 4 students will enjoy the combination of 'Wonderful Waste' and 'Plants-a-Plenty' programs. Please see above for details.

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

Grade 5 - Half Day or Full Day Program

The Wonders of Wetlands

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, 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*

