

HELEN SCHULER

NATURE CENTRE

Discover it here!

BIRTHDAY PARTIES



Illustration by E. Porter



Host your birthday party at the Helen Schuler Nature Centre!

At the Helen Schuler Nature Centre our goal is to nurture an appreciation for the natural environment through experience and discovery. Sharing a child's special day with their friends and family is just one way we inspire gratitude for the natural world.

- Cost:** \$200 for 15 children (each additional child is \$12.50)
- Max. Children:** 20 children (including siblings)
- Max. Participants:** 30 participants (including adults)
- Booking duration:** 2.5 hours
 - 15 minutes** set up
 - 1 hour** interpreter-led program
 - 1 hour** party
 - 15 minutes** clean up

Current birthday party programs:

AGES 4-6	AGES 6+	AGES 8-10
<p>Rabbit Rescue Princess Bunny is in danger! Use animal tracking clues along the trails to rescue her.</p>	<p>Camouflage Learn about how animals use camouflage to survive then test your own camouflage skills!</p>	<p>Geocaching Use GPS units to navigate to hidden geocaches in the Nature Reserve!</p>
<p>A Year as a Deer What is life as a deer like? Learn to jump, run, and camouflage just like the deer in the Oldman River Valley.</p>	<p>Nature Quest Something is amiss in the Nature Reserve! Go on a fantastical journey through the forest to solve this mystery.</p>	

**We are currently only offering birthday parties for children ages 4-10.*

Birthday party package includes:

- Access to our private party room for up to 2.5 hours
- A fun and engaging 1-hour nature program hosted by one of our skilled nature interpreters
- Access to our well-stocked kitchenette
- All materials and supplies for program activity
- Access to our Exhibits and Living Roof before and after your booking





Green up your party

In keeping with the Nature Centre's mandate we ask that you take action to reduce the environmental footprint of your party. Here are a few suggestions to make your party a little 'greener':

Refuse! Leave the disposable cutlery and dishes at the store. Use the dishes we provide. We have a water-smart dishwasher so you can load it and leave it! **We strongly recommend against balloons.**

Reinvent! Ask your guests to wrap any gifts in reusable bags or, for a fun twist, wrap them in old scarves, shirts, cereal boxes or magazines.

Rethink! If you choose to provide party bags to guests we recommend including items that are biodegradable, reusable or promote environmental awareness. Seeds and potting soil, magnifying glasses, natural skipping ropes, nature scavenger hunts, links to naturalist websites, homemade foods and activity passes (swimming, skating, etc.) are all great eco-friendly parting gifts for your guests.

Birthday Party Guidelines

- Parents are responsible for hosting and supervising the event at all times.
- A minimum of one adult chaperone is required for every 10 children.
- We provide tables, chairs, cutlery, and dishware. Tablecloths and décor are not included in the rental.
- Décor cannot be adhered to or attached to the ceiling. Freestanding/table décor is acceptable.
- Confetti, glitter, pins, thumbtacks, and tape are not permitted. Balloons are permitted inside the party room only.
- The birthday party package does not include food or beverages.
- Set-up and clean-up must occur within the scheduled booking time and parents are responsible for the set-up and clean-up of tables, chairs, food and decorations.
- Music can be played at a reasonable volume in the party room.
- All food and beverages must be kept in the party room.
- **Confetti, glitter, sky lanterns/helium balloon releases etc are not permitted.**
- Exterior doors may not be propped open at any time during an event due to the high risk of small animals entering the building.
- Party bookings must occur within the regular operating hours of the Nature Centre.
- Weather is a part of nature. **Programs will run in all weather conditions**, including rain, sun and snow. Please ensure children have seasonally appropriate clothing & footwear.



Payment & Cancellation Policy

Payment is due in full on or before the booking start time. In the event of a cancellation, we require 2 weeks' notice for a full refund. If less than two weeks' notice is given, 50% of the rental fee will be refunded. No refunds will be issued for cancellations made less than 48 hours from the booking.

In case of emergency, where the Nature Centre is unable to fulfill its contractual obligations to the renter, the Nature Centre will reschedule the party to a date and time convenient for both the Nature Centre and renter.

No refunds will be made for inclement weather.



Damage

Renters shall pay for all damages that occur that is deemed to be outside normal wear and tear. The designated on-site supervisor will assume responsibility for the actions of participants.

The City of Lethbridge shall not be liable for loss or damage to the property of others while such property is in or on City Property. Please encourage invitees not to bring valuables, such as, electronics, phones etc. to prevent theft or loss of items.

Equipment

The renter is responsible for event setup and takedown and to ensure that all equipment is clean and returned to storage areas. When facility use has concluded, the renter is responsible for:

- Cleaning tables & sweeping floors.
- Placing all garbage, recyclables and compost into provided containers.
- Loading all dishes into the dishwasher.

A charge of \$50 per 15 minutes will apply for late departure. A fee will be assessed and charged for poor cleanup. Missing or damaged equipment will result in replacement or repair charges.

Insurance

Comprehensive General Liability with limits of not less than \$2,000,000 for bodily injury and/or property damage per occurrence with the City of Lethbridge listed as Additional Insured.

An insurance request can be directed to your broker/agent or you can purchase insurance for your event through online resources such as, <https://lethbridge.instantriskcoverage.com/>

Health & Safety

Any group utilizing Nature Centre facilities assumes full responsibility for the health and safety of all its members and participants. **Renters are responsible for providing liability insurance for their booking. Information on how to obtain liability insurance will be sent to renters with their Booking Confirmation and Conditions of Use form.**

For more information or to request a booking, please contact:

Marianne Virag, Facility Programming Coordinator
Marianne.Virag@lethbridge.ca | 403.320.3064

Or submit a booking request form online: nature.lethbridge.ca/rental

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