



2025 School Program

Program Details:

We are very excited to unveil our 2025 K-6 school program, running in May & June! Join us for an ultimate nature learning experience focused on Species & Land right here in Central Alberta. Students are sure to leave buzzing with excitement about the natural world around them!



Join us for a 2 or 4 hour program to experience all that Ellis Nature Centre has to offer!

Ellis
Nature Centre

Species Program

Our species program will focus on the variety of creatures that call Central Alberta home, and how they all interact!



1) Wetland Exploration

In our wetland exploration, students will learn about the importance of wetlands to local ecosystems, with a focus on plants and water quality. We'll also learn about one of the most famous wetland animals: beavers!



2) Pond Dipping

Come with us to discover the incredible world in the pond, which often goes unseen! Not only will students get to use dip nets and observe aquatic creatures, but we'll also discuss how pond life is connected to the broader ecosystem.



3) All About Birds

Explore the wonderful world of birds through a variety of hands-on activities! We'll examine owl pellets to figure out what some of the most magnificent birds eat and examine the feathers and wings of a variety of birds to learn what allows them to fly.



Land Program

The land program focuses on the variety of ways we rely on the land as a source of food, as well as how Indigenous people use land!

1) Gardening & Honey Bees

Join us in the wonderful world of the garden to learn about the small but mighty ecosystem that can provide our food. We'll examine the vegetables, insects, and soil that all lead to a functioning garden! We'll also take a close look at our Honey Bee Hives to get an inside look at the world of pollinators!



2) Chickenology

Enter the fascinating world of the chicken coop! Students will discover what type of nutrients chickens need in their food, how to speak chicken, learn about egg production, and discover why a chicken coop is so important.



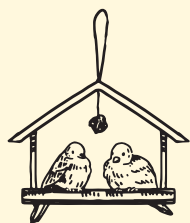
3) Indigenous Plant Knowledge

Discover Indigenous knowledge of plants in the Parkland region! We'll explore our site looking for natural edible plants and learn about the importance of plants and trees to the ecosystem.



Bird Feeder Building (4 hour program option)

Kids will make their own bird feeder to take home, using pre-cut lumber and nails. We'll also send students home with information on backyard birds & how to attract them! **NOTE: We do not decorate the feeders as part of the program.**



What to expect

- 2 or 4 hour themed instruction of outdoor & indoor activities, rain or shine!
- Morning and/or afternoon sessions, with a 30 minute lunch break for the 4 hour programs.
- A dedicated Ellis Nature Centre education leader for every 15 students.
- Knowledgeable and approachable staff.
- Hands-on, interactive experiences tied to the new Alberta science program of study (geared to the grades 1-3 curriculum).
- Teacher package to help you prepare for your program.
- Picnic tables, washroom facilities, and water fountain available.
- Indoor storage place for backpacks and belongings.
- Indoor lunch area on rainy days.

What we expect

- A minimum of one supervisor (adult) for every group of 15 children.
- Dress for the weather.
- Bring snacks and lunch (for the 4 hour program)!
- Advise us if any students have allergies to bees.
- Come with a list of students who cannot have their photo taken.

Prices

Prices begin at \$50 per hour for 15 children. For every additional 15 children, there will be a \$50 per hour increase. If you choose to build feeders, they are \$8 +GST per student.

Payments are due by April 25, 2025. Our preferred payment method is cheque, which can be mailed to the PO Box on the invoice after your program is confirmed. If cheque is not possible, we can process credit card payments over the phone. Please note that all credit card payments are subject to a 3.4% service charge. **If you are unable to pay ahead of time, we will need to know this at time of registration.**

Our programs run rain or shine, so rescheduling, cancellations, and refunds must be made by April 25, 2025.

How to Register

Registration opens January 8, 2025!

Registration is through our **ONLINE** form only:

<https://ellisnaturecentre.ca/spring-2025-school-program/>

Programs run Tuesday to Friday, from May 13th to June 27th.

Spots will be filled on a first come, first served basis. Please note groups of more than 75 students will need to be split over two days. If you have questions, please contact us at booking@ellisnaturecentre.ca

1. Choose your Program Option and Time

2 Hour Programs
9:30-11am or 12-2pm

A: Species

- 1) Wetland Exploration
- 2) Pond Dipping
- 3) All About Birds

B: Land

- 1) Gardening & Honey Bees
- 2) Chickenology
- 3) Indigenous Plant Knowledge

4 Hour Programs
9:30-2pm

C: Species & Land

- 1) Wetland Exploration
- 2) Pond Dipping
- 3) All About Birds
- 4) Gardening & Honey Bees
- 5) Chickenology
- 6) Indigenous Plant Knowledge

D: Species, Land, Feeders

- 1) Wetland Exploration
- 2) Pond Dipping
- 3) All About Birds
- 4) Chickenology
- 5) Indigenous Plant Knowledge
- 6) Bird Feeders

2. Complete the booking form on our website

3. We will confirm your booking by email.

Past Program Feedback!

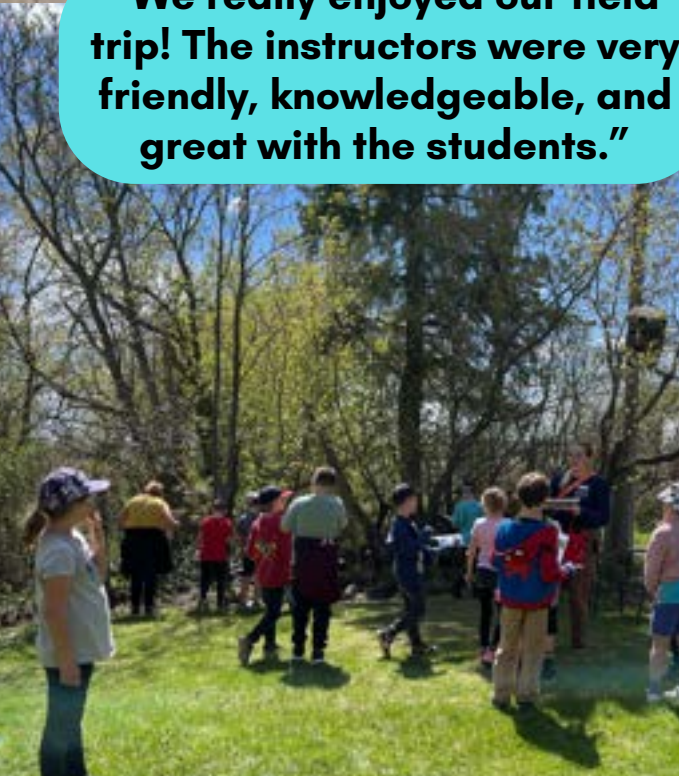


"We really enjoyed our field trip! The instructors were very friendly, knowledgeable, and great with the students."



"The field trip was lovely. We all loved it and many of the families said they would be returning to visit this summer."

"Every year it's an awesome trip! Been coming for over 20 years!"



"Fantastic day, as always! Your staff are always amazing and our students love the program. Thank you for a great day!"

