

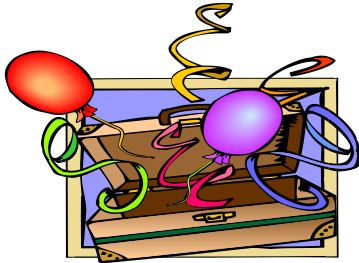


Mass Audubon

Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary

87 Perkins Row ▲ Topsfield, Massachusetts 01983

tel 978.887.9264 ▲ fax 978.887.0875 ▲ email ipswichriver@massaudubon.org



Birthday Party Information and Themes, 2009-2010

Dates: August 29, 2009 - June 13, 2010

(No parties in summer because of day camp in Barn and Nature Center.)

Days and Starting Times: Tuesday –Friday: Afternoon

Saturday or Sunday: Morning or Afternoon

Length of program: 2 hrs, 15 minutes (broken up into three segments)

1. Initial 15 min. is for you to set up the indoor space.
2. One hour 15 minutes is for guided walk outside.
3. Forty-five minutes for your indoor celebration.

We request that you clean up the nature center and remove your trash so that it is ready for visitors.

Cost: \$150 for 15 children; \$10/child beyond the 15-child limit. \$25 deposit required.

Maximum: 20 children.

Birthday Party Themes, 2009-2010

Habitat Hike

Pond Dipping

Backyard Birds-All Seasons

Beavers

Nature and Art

Animal Tracking-All Seasons

Insects and Spiders

Life Under Rocks and Logs

Owls

To schedule a birthday party, or, for more information, please contact:

Angela Walsh

Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary

87 Perkins Row

Topsfield, MA 01983

978-887-9264 ext. 7703

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Birthday Party Themes 2009-2010

Habitat Hike

Using hand lenses party guests will explore the different habitats of the sanctuary. We'll take a closer look at what the plants and animals are doing during the season in which your birthday falls. Hands on discoveries await!

Pond Dipping

Discover what lives in our fresh water habitats. Take a closer look at the insects that wriggle and swim through Waterfowl Pond. Equipped with strainers, buckets and hand lenses, we will hike to the ponding platform and sample fauna from the water's edge.

Backyard Birds

The sanctuary is a wonderful place to learn about these fascinating creatures. Using binoculars we will view birds from our bird viewing window, observation tower and trails. We'll take a closer look at feathers, nests and bird mounts. Using observational skills we will start to identify some of our local birds.

Beavers

Discover what life is like as the largest rodent in North America. We will observe up close a beaver mount, lodge, dam and scent mounds. Discover how beavers continue to change the habitat in which they live and how other species of animals and plants benefit. As a group we'll build our own beaver lodge.

Owls

Become a wildlife biologist as we hike the trails to see where owls live. We'll learn about their habitat, view owl mounts and dissect a real owl pellet to discover what they eat.

Animal Tracking

Party guests will learn about tracks and the animals that made them. Snow or no snow, signs of wildlife abound. Learn to identify animal tracks then try to walk like a fox or gallop like a rabbit. We'll also explore forest trails and meadows in search of nibbles, burrows and scat.

Insects and Spiders

Have you ever wondered why bees buzz and crickets chirp? Then join us as we fly, jump and crawl through the fields and gardens of the sanctuary. Using nets and bug boxes we'll search for butterflies, grasshoppers, beetles and more.

Life Under Rocks and Logs

Who hides under the rocks and logs of the sanctuary? Is it a centipede? A salamander? Party guests will explore the hidden treasures under the surface of the forest using bug boxes and hand lenses. We'll turn over leaf litter and look under rocks and logs to see what turns up as we hike through the trails.

Nature and Art

Wake up the artist in you. Using hand lenses, party guests will take a short hike to collect natural materials for sketching and observation. Become artists in your very own studio, as you visit four nature art centers using paint, pastel and colored pencils, or design a sketch book and hike the trails, stopping to take a closer look.