



Westmoreland Sanctuary
NATURE CENTER & WILDLIFE PRESERVE



Birthday Parties at Westmoreland Sanctuary!

BIRTHDAY PARTY GENERAL INFORMATION

Westmoreland offers birthday parties for children turning 5 and older. Our parties are designed to be a fun and educational experience.

Birthday parties are held Monday thru Sunday 10-4pm. Parties may begin no later than 3:00 p.m. unless permission is granted by the naturalist who is handling your party.

A 2-hour time slot is reserved. This includes a 45min. to 1 hour program by one of our professional naturalists. The other hour is reserved for cake / pizza, etc. Additional programs can be added to your time for an additional fee.

All parties are held in our nature museum or in designated areas of the sanctuary. The naturalist is responsible for the set up and clean-up of the program materials as well as conducting the pre-determined program.

Parents must supply their own party decorations, supplies and food. Table clothes are required. We provide 2-3, 8 ft tables for your use. You may arrive up to 1/2 hour early to set up.

BOOKING YOUR BIRTHDAY PARTY

Party space is limited. To reserve your preferred date, we recommend you call at least 2 months in advance. **Please call our office (914-666-8448) for available dates and times.**

All parties require a \$25.00 non-refundable deposit to be mailed within 2 weeks after booking your party. Failure to provide a deposit may result in the removal of your party from our calendar. Deposit checks should be made out to Westmoreland Sanctuary. You may also submit your deposit using our secure PayPal payment center using your PayPal account, Visa, MasterCard or American Express.



BIRTHDAY PARTY PROGRAM INFORMATION

Below is a list of available birthday party programs. Descriptions for each of the programs can be found later in our birthday party brochure. All programs suitable for younger children can be easily adapted for older age groups (i.e. Animal Kingdoms can be adapted to suit an audience of 5yr olds or 8yr olds). Other programs may be designed with the approval of the naturalist leading your party.

Please note some programs are held only at certain time for the year (marked with * in description section) and there are programs with a maximum number of children allowed.

Please check the Pricing section below for information regarding additional materials fees for some of the programs.

PROGRAMS AVAILABLE

Ages 5yrs and older

Animal Kingdoms (Live Animals)
Bird Banding – (Live Birds) May and October only
Maple Sugaring - March only
Nature Hike Adventure

1st grade and older - may choose any of the above or...

Bluebird house Construction - Max. 20 children
Bird Feeder Workshop - November to April / Max. 20 children
Candle making - December only
Pond Exploration - April to October
Who goes there? Animal Tracking - Max. 30 children

2nd grade and older - may choose any of the above or...

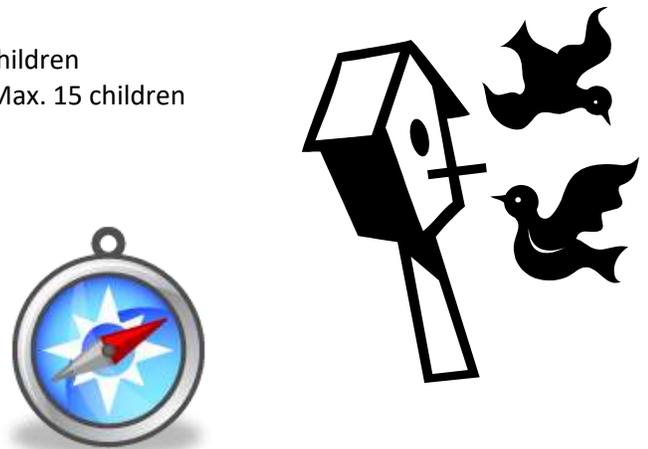
Bat House Construction - January to February only / Max. 20 children
Screech Owl House Construction - January to February only / Max. 15 children

3rd grade and older - may choose any of the above or...

Map and Compass Scavenger Hunt
Campfire Cooking the healthy way

5th grade and older - may choose any of the above or...

Wilderness Survival skills and survival kits
Survival bracelets and knots



Animal Kingdom

Discover the diverse world of animals through a tour of our live animals. Children have the opportunity to touch animals that will help develop respect and appreciation for the many animal species.

Bat House Construction *

Where have all the bats gone? Kids will discover what an important part bats play to our ecosystem and what has caused our bats to be seriously threatened. Once they know more about our bats, they will get to lend a hand in bat conservation by building their very own bat house!

Bird Banding *

See what scientist do to study birds. Observe bird banding in person, a way scientist keep track of birds and study them during their travels.

Bird Feeder Workshop *

A great way to make your backyard a bird habitat is putting up bird feeders Learn about what birds eat and how to attract them to their yards. Each child will have the opportunity to construct their own bird feeder to take home.

Bird House Construction

There is no better way to start learning about conservation than beginning with the state bird of New York. Learn about the Eastern Bluebird, its plight and how it is being helped. Each child gets to construct their own bluebird house to help the conservation efforts at home.

Candlemaking *

Hop in the time machine as we go back to the colonial days. Participants will discover how candles were made in colonial time. Every child will have the opportunity to make their own hand-dipped candle to take home.

Geology

Discover the world of rocks. Learn where rocks come from, how they're classified, and how to identify them. Get hands on as we look at rock and mineral samples.

Guided Nature Hike

No better way to discover nature than a hike through it! in a nature hike through the Westmoreland forest. (Note: This program changes based on the season and what is seen while hiking)

Maple Sugaring *

Step back in time as we discover how maple sap is turned into maple syrup. Learn the techniques of maple sugaring. Enjoy the unique combination of history, plant science, and culinary arts during this program.

Orienteering/ Map and Compass Scavenger Hunt

Learning navigation using the basic tools rather than GPS. Map reading will discuss locating landmarks and understanding gradients on a topographic map. Scavenger hunt compass course allows participants to learn orienteering skills while collecting stamps for prizes. For an optional material fee participants are given supplies to make their own compass, these homemade compasses are theirs to keep.

Outdoor Cooking

Minimalist outdoor cooking techniques used in outdoor activities such as camping and backpacking. Meal preparation, food management, clean up, and nutrition will be the focus of the demonstrations and classes. Meals are planned to meet needs of outdoor activity or trip. Program available for basic and advanced levels. Basic cooking program provided offsite using a Sun Oven solar cooker.

Pond Study *

It's hard to know what goes on under the surface of the water. The program will take participants down to Bechtel Lake where they will study the insects and other life living in the lake.

Survival Bracelet Making

Create a survival kit you can wear on your wrist. Survival Bracelets are designed to give you access, at all times, to basic resources to use in an emergency. Bracelets contain several feet of rope, a compass, and a survival whistle. Advanced bracelets also include a fire starter and some tinder. Bracelets can be personalized with school colors or other color preference. Survival knots can also be taught during a longer program, this requires an hour for the bracelets and another hour to learn the knots.

Wilderness Survival

Learn what it takes to survive in the wild. Basic principles on what an organism needs to survive apply to humans as well as other animals. Learn the basic skills for survival in a wilderness setting. Determine which plants can be beneficial to you, and which can harm you. Discover the many ways to find and purify water. Find out how to prioritize your needs and identify potential resources.

Additional topics that could be covered

- Survival basics
- Finding and purifying water
- Wild edible and medicinal plants
- Shelter and fire building techniques
- Survival kits
- Natural Navigation

2017-2018 Birthday Party Fees

MEMBERS*: \$15.00 per child / \$200.00 minimum

NON-MEMBERS: \$25.00 per child / \$350.00 minimum

*You can become a member on the day of your party for a family membership donation of \$85.00. For more information about memberships, please see the Get Involved tab above.
An additional program can be added for \$50.00 per hour.

All parties require a \$25.00 non-refundable deposit to be mailed within 2 weeks of booking your party. Failure to do so may result in your party being removed from our calendar.

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS FEES

The following materials fees are added to the per child birthday party fee:

Animal Signs and Tracking - \$3.00
Bat House Construction - \$6.00
Bird Feeder Workshop - \$4.00
Bluebird House Construction - \$4.00
Candle making - \$3.00
Exploring Owls - \$3.00

Geology - \$3.00
Orienteering- \$3.00 (optional)
Outdoor Cooking (Basic) - \$3.00
Outdoor Cooking (Advanced) - \$6.00
Survival Bracelets and Knots- \$6.00
Survival Kits- \$3.00