

Art & Nature Camp 2025 - Frequently Asked Questions

Here are some of the most common questions we get from parents. If you have any other inquiries, feel free to contact us! Email education@leightoncentre.org or call (403) 931-3636.

1. What will my child be doing during the week at summer camp?

Your child will be immersed in Art & Nature! They will spend the week as an artist, working with a variety of media (i.e., printmaking, acrylic, clay etc.) and exploring the beautiful rural landscape! Our summer camp is a fun, arts immersion program designed to build your child's talents and skills as an artist.

2. What is the age range of children who attend summer camp at Leighton Art Centre?

Our summer camp is open to children and youth 6-14 years old. If your child has turned 6 by July 1, 2025, they are able to attend. This year, we plan to have 3 groups of 20 campers each week.

3. Can my child be in the same group as their friend?

We do our best to accommodate requests for friends or siblings in the same group but encourage children to go in their groups according to age. Lunch is a great time for friends/ siblings to be together, and our groups are never too far away from one another if there is ever a concern. Group placement decisions are at the discretion of the Camp Director. The interests of all our campers, as well as parent requests, will be carefully taken into consideration at all times.

4. What are the hours for summer camp?

Summer camp starts at 9:30 AM and ends at 3:30 PM, Monday to Friday (no camp on July 1st or August 4th due to the statutory holiday). We ask that you call (403-931-3636) or e-mail our office (education@leightoncentre.org) if your child will miss any days of camp. We are unable to offer a discount for any missed days of camp.

**Please note that there is no before or after care available. Drop off will be available no earlier than 9:20 am and your child must be picked up no later than 3:30 pm.

5. Where are you located?

Leighton Art Centre is approximately 20 minutes southwest of Calgary, at 282027 144 Street West, Foothills AB. More information is available [on our website](#).

6. What if I need transportation for my child?

Busing from Calgary is free for summer camp participants! See our bus information, in this package or online. It is very important that you have your child ready at the bus stop for sign-in at least 5 minutes before the actual pick-up time so our bus can stay on schedule.

7. What if I miss meeting the bus to pick up my child?!?

Your child will stay on the bus and ride to the next stop. Call our bus cell (number provided in the 'welcome to camp' email) to arrange to meet the bus. If you miss the bus in the morning, please drive your child to the next stop on the route (time permitting) OR directly to Leighton Art Centre.

8. What should my child wear to summer camp?

Children should wear play clothes that they can get messy in. Please do not send them in anything nice because it most likely won't stay clean for long! The Leighton Art Centre takes no responsibility for damaged clothing. Please ensure that your child has all the layers and possible changes of clothes they will need for the day. Camp is messy and the weather can change quickly and unfortunately, this year we are not able to lend out extra clothing.

9. What should my child bring to summer camp?

- Lunch, snacks and plenty of fluids!
- Any medicine that they may require through-out the day (i.e. asthma inhalers, antihistamines)
- Apply sunscreen and bug spray before camp then pack them to be reapplied later in the day.
- Send your child with a hat, rain gear, and dress your child in layers. They will be outside in nature each day (sometimes in the rain) and often the morning is cool and the afternoon heats up!
- We are a rural centre. Your child will be hiking on unpaved pathways and must wear appropriate footwear and clothing (no flip flops or crocs).

10. Can my child bring electronics/cell phones to summer camp?

We ask that your child does not bring any electronics or cell phones; they may not be used at camp and they could get damaged. The Leighton Art Centre is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

11. What if my child loses something?

Please label ALL items sent to camp (clothing, lunch bags, water bottles etc.) and make a note of the personal items your child brings to camp. If you notice something missing, encourage your child to look through our Lost & Found (located in the Education Centre Office). Items in the Lost & Found are kept until Labour Day.

12. Is there a time when I can visit my child at summer camp and share in what they are doing?

Yes! Friday afternoon on the last day of camp we hold an Open House and Art Show! The Open House is a drop-in for families, anytime between 3:00 - 3:30 PM on Fridays. This is a great opportunity to share in the joy of your child's learning and discoveries! Parents will take their child home with them after they have toured the camp art exhibit and museum. Please note that staff supervision is only available until 3:30 PM and children must be picked up prior to this time. The Art Show is not mandatory, we understand if you are unable to attend. The bus will run as usual and we will provide your child with alternate activities for the afternoon and some special attention.

13. Can I visit the museum and gallery when I drop my child off or before I pick them up? Can I walk the property?

Yes. The house is open 10 am - 4 pm, Tuesday – Sunday during the summer, but you are also welcome to walk the property immediately after drop-off on camp days.

If you have particular concerns or you need to pick up or drop off your child outside out the usual times please contact our summer camp staff via email (education@leightoncentre.org) or by phone (403-931-3636).

14. Are you offering busing this year?

Yes! Busing from Calgary is free for summer camp participants; please see our Summer Camp Info Pack for bus route and schedule.

15. What if my child or another camper or staff member gets sick?

Please do not send your child to camp with any cold or flu symptoms. If your child becomes sick while at camp, we will contact you to pick them up. We have sufficient staff to cover in the event a staff member is off sick.

16. How will you handle difficult behaviour?

We always do our best to ensure that our summer camp staff has good training and experience with handling challenging behaviours in a group setting. We will be strictly enforcing a 3-strike policy for children who do not follow the rules. If we need to speak repeatedly to your child about following camp rules, respecting other campers' or staff's personal space, or any kind of risky or disruptive behaviour, we will contact you to come and pick up your child. If your child is ready to return the next day while following the rules, we will be happy to have them! If the problematic behaviour is developing into a pattern we will ask you keep your child at home; the safety of our campers and staff needs to be our top priority.

17. Accessibility Needs: To ask about special support or accommodations, please email education@leightoncentre.org.

18. When do you require payment?

Payment in full is required at the time of registration.

19. Cancellation & Transfer Policy

If you need to cancel after registration, we will issue a full refund provided you cancel at least 4 weeks prior to the start of the booked camp.

No refunds after 30 days prior to camp start date. Transfer of your child's registration to another week of camp can be discussed at the discretion of the Summer Camp staff. A \$25 transfer fee (per child, per week) will apply to any child transferring to a different week of camp. We are unable to pro-rate the cost of camp if your child needs to miss any day(s).

20. Behaviour Policy

Summer camp attendees and their families/guardians are expected to show respect to others, Leighton Art Centre and its natural surroundings. Children and parents/guardians are expected to follow the rules set out by the Leighton Art Centre. Please note, the administration of the Leighton Art Centre reserves the right to remove a child from camp for behaviour that is not in keeping with the above expectations or if the child is unable to cope with the challenges of camp. We will be strictly enforcing our 3-strike policy.

21. Camp Hours and Parking Info

Camp begins at 9:30 AM and ends at 3:30 PM. There is no before or after childcare; please try not to arrive before 9:15 AM or after 3:30 PM.

Sign-in and sign-out for summer camp will be done at the museum parking lot, there will be a camp counselor to greet and direct you as you sign your camper in and out.

Please do not park on the road, for safety reasons.