

Thank you for choosing Richardson Bay Audubon Center & Sanctuary to celebrate your child's birthday!

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What time should the invitations read?

- Either 10:30am – 12:30pm or 1:30pm – 3:30pm. Although the room rental is scheduled for three hours, either 10am-1pm or 1pm-4pm, a half-hour should be used for set up, and a half-hour for clean up. We appreciate your respecting these timelines.

### Can adults stay for the duration of the party?

- Yes! We encourage parents/guardians to participate in birthday activities and enjoy the beautiful surroundings. A minimum of two adults must accompany the children with naturalist on the hike. Please limit your guests to a maximum of 30 people (15 children/15 adults).

### What if it rains?

- We love to play in the rain (as will the kids!). We can proceed with outdoor explorations if it rains. If you prefer, indoor activities can be substituted for the hike.

### What kinds of activities will the children be doing, and which theme should I choose?

- The Naturalist will plan fabulous, fun-filled, age-appropriate activities based on the birthday child's interests and the season. During a bug party, we might go on a butterfly hike, look at garden spiders through magnifying lenses, or dress up in a dragonfly costume. During a beach party, we might do a beach scavenger hunt, build creatures out of beach wrack, or do sand painting. Your child can decide which nature theme he/she is most interested in. Please note we cannot control the tides, please be sure to check when booking your program as to the most appropriate theme for your party.

### Do we bring our own decorations and tablecloths?

- Remember this is a wildlife sanctuary. We ask that you respect the surrounding habitat and our Center's mission to protect the environment. Families may bring decorations for the rental room. We ask that you bring reusable decorations to limit trash. We will provide two 6' long tablecloths, plates, cups, and utensils for 15 children (& 15 adults). We will also provide compostable napkins. If you must bring balloons they must be weighted and kept inside. Please see the flyer about Eco-Friendly Party Ideas.

### What is in the nature goody bags?

- We provide one nature goody bag per paid participant (15 max) at the end of the program. Goody bags may include a pencil, recycled notebook, wooden pencil sharpener, sticker or tattoo, magnifying bug box, rubber insect/animal, or other nature-themed items. If you would like to augment the goody bags, we can have them ready for you prior to the party. We can not add your items or additional decorations to the goody bags for you.

### What is the facility like?

- Birthdays are celebrated in "Rosie's Cottage", which consists of two medium size rooms. The bayside room is for cake, snack, and/or gifts. We have banquet-style tables that are 6' long and padded chairs. The other room is where children gather for initial naturalist-led activities. There is a sink in Rosie's, and a separate bathroom facility close to the building.

### Where is the rental room and how will our guests know where to go?

- Rosie's Cottage is the smaller yellow building, located just down the path from the main gate. Staff puts up signs directing guests from the gates.