

Virtual Programs



Our virtual programs are designed to loosely complement the Alberta curriculum. If you have questions about specific program objectives or logistics please visit our virtual experiences website for payment details and program information:

https://www.edmonton.ca/attractions_events/edmonton_valley_zoo/virtual-experiences

For any booking inquiries, or to CHANGE or CANCEL your booking, email artsattractionsbookings@edmonton.ca

Adult Supervisors

We recommend the usual amount of adult supervision required in a standard classroom to assist younger audiences with focus and attention.

Please inform participating teachers/adult supervisors that the expectation of them is to help out with group activities (such as helping to facilitate the Question & Answer portions) and that they are there to supervise the group. You and your adult helpers' encouragement and active participation in all on-screen activities will help to make this learning experience a truly positive one for your group!

Group Size

The maximum number of **children** participants is 30. Groups exceeding 30 children should book an additional program.

The maximum number of **individual** (adult supervisors and children) participants is 35. Groups exceeding 35 individuals in total must book an additional program.

To ensure a high quality program we recommend that all children participating in a program be approximately the same age range.

Accessibility & Inclusion

Please inform our team, in advance of the program, if there is anything we can do virtually to support students with learning disabilities or behavioural issues. Please also indicate any strategies you use with students to help them have success in the classroom, including if you may require additional video pausing and movement breaks.

Equipment Required

- Computer with internet access
- Access to Google Meet or Microsoft Teams (Google Meet is our preferred platform)
- A projector with a speaker
- Ability to type questions into the chat box, or a microphone to communicate with zoo staff

Interpreter Contact

The interpreter assigned to lead your program will contact the individual who booked the program at least 72 hours prior to your field trip to confirm details with you and provide the meeting link/invitation. If you have not heard from your interpreter within 72 business hours, please call the program coordinator at 780-718-2695. The interpreter will contact you by email, if you haven't heard from them please check your spam folder.

Internet / Connectivity

Should either party experience internet connectivity or technical issues, they will contact the other party to inform them and provide a status update. Should you need to reschedule because of technology or connectivity issues, please email artsattractionsbookings@edmonton.ca and let them know. Fees may occur.

What to Expect

You will be sent a Google Meet video invitation link prior to your program. You will use this link to join us on the call. When you join the video call, we will be presenting a "Starting Soon" screen, which will be playing a video with sound. This is a good time to confirm your volume settings for the video.

We will communicate with you in the beginning through the "Chat" section of the meeting. Please be able to write a reply to us, just in case microphone communication isn't reliable so we can still have a conversation.

We will say hello and ask if you are ready to go. We will wait until the booked starting time if you don't hear anything from you.

Virtual Creature Feature

Join a zookeeper, education employee and an animal ambassador on a real-time video call behind the scenes at the zoo for an opportunity to learn more about an animal species living at the Edmonton Valley Zoo! Each program provides participants with a short explanation (~10 minutes) of how we care for the highlighted species, some fun facts about the individual animal you see on screen (~5 minutes) as well as an interactive Q&A portion.

★ The Q&A portion time will vary depending on the number of questions asked by participants, but will conclude 1 hour after the start time of the program.

On average, these programs run approximately 30 minutes in length.

Pre-Recorded Field Trip

Loosely tailored to meet the Alberta curriculum but flexible for any viewer, these interactive videos highlight some species not always seen during on-site programs and may exhibit detailed behind-the-scenes tours and explanations of how we care for the animals here at the zoo. The interactive videos have call-and-answer moments with participants and include pause breaks for group movement breaks (lead by the group leader) as well as discussion with the group leaders about the program theme. After the video concludes, you'll join a member of the zoo education team for an interactive Q&A session.

★ The Q&A portion time may vary depending on the number of questions asked by participants, but will conclude 1 hour after the start time of the program.

On average, these programs run approximately 45 minutes in length.