

How to Prepare for your Trip

Prepare your Payment:

Please come to the facility prepared with a single, full payment for your program. If you wish to be invoiced, a \$20.00 administration fee will apply. Don't forget to collect admission from any adults that are above the supervision ratio.

Plan your Lunch and Snacks:

Cambridge Butterfly Conservatory does not allow any outside food to be brought into the facility. We have a limited number of uncovered picnic tables as well as a large grassy area available on a first come first serve basis for groups bringing packed lunches. We cannot provide an alternative in the case of inclement weather. Please keep this in mind and make appropriate lunch arrangements.

Prepare your Students:

The conservatory is warm and humid year round so please dress in layers. None of our animals or insects can hurt students, although sometimes they can fly close to our faces and that can be startling. Please remind them not to touch the butterflies.

Prepare your Supervisors:

We rely on your supervisors to help us facilitate our programming, so be sure they know which students they are responsible for. Remember that our programs feature live insects – we ask that supervisors try their best to set an example of interest and engagement (even though we know some of them are scared of bugs too!) Bring your cameras to capture your experience!

Upon Arrival:

Please have the bus pull up directly in front of the facility. Have the students stay on the bus while the organizing teacher comes in to notify the Gift Store of their arrival. Payment should be made at this time. A Nature Interpreter will board the bus to greet your group. It is helpful if students leave their coats and bags on the bus. The Interpreter will lead your group off the bus, but we will need your help in organizing them into their rotational groups. After unloading, the bus should park in the designated bus parking lot to the left of the facility.

Arrival and Departure:

Please arrive as close to your scheduled arrival time as possible and prepare to depart at your departure time as other groups will be arriving throughout the day. If your group is late, we cannot guarantee that your departure time will be extended. Our staff will do their best to ensure that your group experiences all three Learning Centres, but your program may need to be modified or shortened.

During Your Visit:

Please do not touch the butterflies. Handling them may damage their wings and make it hard for them to find food. The butterflies are sun-lovers and tend to be less active on cloudy days – but be sure to keep an eye out for our exotic birds, bugs, fish, and turtles! For the safety of your students and our ecosystem, please stay on the pathways and keep out of the gardens.

After Your Visit:

Ensure that the students have all of their belongings. Remember that teachers receive 15% off in our Gift Store on the day of your visit, and make sure you pick up your Educational Activity Package from one of our Interpreters!