

Celebrate your child's birthday at Great Hollow!

Great Hollow Nature Preserve & Ecological Research Center offers fun, educational birthday parties for children ages 4-12 and up to 19 of their friends. Each 2-hour party includes an 1/1.25-hour education program led by a Great Hollow educator with the remaining time for cake, gifts, etc., hosted by the parents. Most education programs consist of a short hike, activity, and live animal presentation (your choice of a snake, turtle, salamander, or owl). Parties can be held any time of year unless specified.

Ecology

Amazing Adaptations We'll learn about some of the adaptations that plants and animals use to survive in our forest. After a short hike and a game, we'll end the program with a visit from one of our education animals.

Stream Explorations (spring, summer, and fall only) We'll get our hands dirty and our feet wet as we explore Quaker Brook looking for signs of life. Afterwards we'll enjoy a visit from one of our program animals.

Nature's Superheroes (4-7) We'll learn about the superpowers—adaptations—that plants and animals use to survive, then create and transform into our very own nature-based superheroes, costumes and all. The program concludes with a visit from one of our education animals. Additional \$3/child supply fee.



Party Themes

Nature Arts and Crafts

You have the choice of one of the following craft options, followed by a visit from one of our education animals.

- recycled nature journals
- Japanese knotweed pan flutes
- mason jar terrariums
- tree cookie necklaces
- pinecone snakes
- paracord snakes (8+)
- flower or leaf suncatchers
- bird feeder garlands
- custom craft related to child's favorite plant, animal, or insect

Pictures of each craft are available upon request. Additional supply fees apply.

Night Programs

Owl Prowl We'll dissect owl pellets, go on a night hike, call owls (one may even call us back!), and enjoy an up-close visit from a barred owl, one of Great Hollow's newest animal ambassadors. Additional \$4/child supply fee.

Campfire We'll gather around the fire to make s'mores, have a visit from one of our program animals, then go on a night hike. Parents provide the s'mores fixings.

Outdoor Survival (8+)

Wilderness Survival Skills You decide which skill we focus on—fire-making or shelter-building.

Winter Survival Skills (winter only) We'll learn some of the skills needed to survive a winter night in the woods, then put them to the test by making a shelter warm enough to keep our gelatin "frogs" from freezing.

Map and Compass Treasure Hunt After learning the basics of map and compass use we'll put our skills to the test by going on a treasure hunt! Parents provide the treasure.

Custom Parties

Looking for something not listed? Contact us to discuss custom party options. Additional fees may apply.



What's Included

- 1/1.25 hour education program led by a Great Hollow educator
- use of an indoor (Lecture Room) or outdoor (deck) party space, including tables and chairs
- access to our refrigerator and freezer

Your Role

Before: Distribute our liability waiver with your invitations so children can bring the completed paperwork with them to the party. (Children will not be permitted to participate in party activities without this form.) You may arrive up to 45 minutes before the party to set up the space. You are responsible for providing all decorations, food, cups, plates, and utensils.

During: You must help supervise children during the education program portion of the party; please bring at least one adult for every 10 children in attendance. You are responsible for hosting the "party" portion of the event—food and cake, singing *Happy Birthday*, gifts, etc.

After: You are responsible for cleaning up the party space, including bagging up any trash and/or recycling and discarding it in the appropriate waste bins.



Scheduling

Fridays (during the school year only): 4-6p and 7-9p (Night Programs only)

Saturdays: 10a-12p, 1-3p, 4-6p, and 7-9p (Night Programs only)

Sundays: 10a-12p, 1-3p, and 4-6p

Parties must be scheduled at least three weeks in advance. To schedule a party contact us at (203) 546-7789 or info@greathollow.org.

Cost

A \$50 deposit is due at time of scheduling to secure your date, with the remaining balance due the day of the party. Certain parties have additional per child fees. Memberships can be purchased at time of scheduling. Payments may be made by cash, check, or card.

Members (Family Level and higher): \$225, plus tax, for up to 12 children; \$10 for each additional child, with a maximum of 20 children.

Non-members: \$250, plus tax, for up to 12 children; \$10 for each additional child, with a maximum of 20 children.

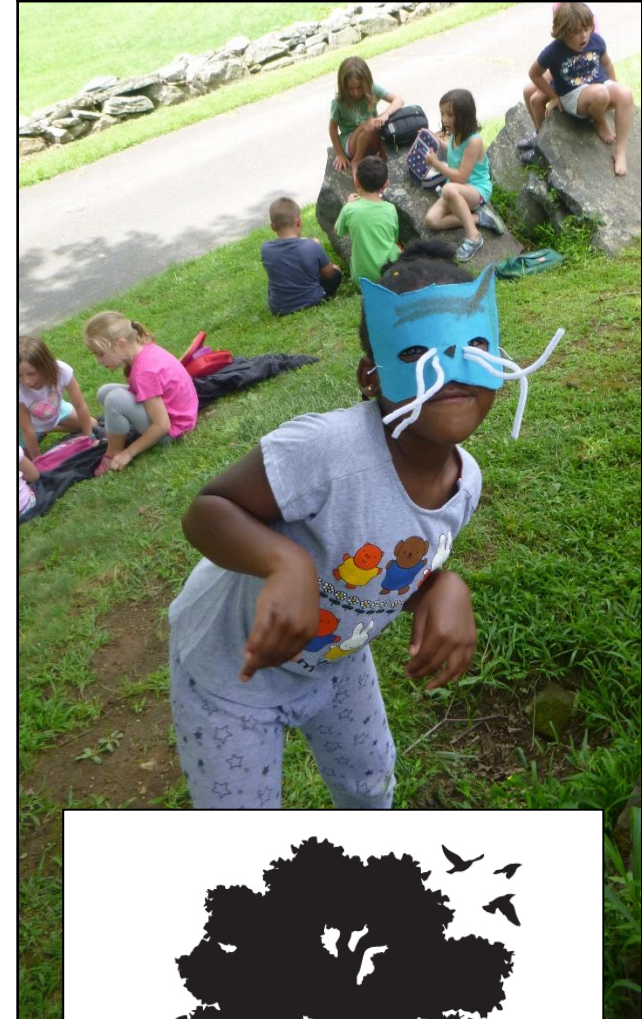
T-shirts for the birthday child are available to purchase for \$12.

Looking for a gift alternative?

Consider symbolically adopting the animal presented during your child's party. Animal adoptions help us provide food, supplies, and veterinary care for our resident animals. Your child will receive a thank you note "from" the animal along with a framed photo. Please contact us for more information.

 **Great Hollow**
Nature Preserve & Ecological Research Center
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(203) 546-7789 GreatHollow.org

Children's Birthday Parties




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