

## *Children's Birthday Parties*

Availability:

Saturdays and Sundays only; 10am-12pm or 11am-1pm

Summer: 9am-11am only

August: closed

Includes:

Rental of classroom for 2 hours (we do not provide food/drink/décor, guest can bring in; **no balloons**)

20-25 minute presentation of 2-3 animals

30 minute early entry to decorate classroom/get set-up

30 people max, kids and adults included

### *General Children's Party Layout:*

1. Make sure to check in with handfeed to let them know you're on-site; if you need help or have questions, direct them to the handfeed team
2. Introduce yourself to the guest and show them into the classroom. Give them a heads up that you'll be in and out of the classroom as you'll be setting up for your animal presentation.  
You will need:
  - a. Your birds! Or reptiles! (2-3 total)
  - b. A green mat
  - c. Paper towels and a water bottle (just in case your birds miss the mat)
3. For your script, we steal from Laura:
  - a. Welcome to Liberty Wildlife. My name is XX and I'll helping you learn about some animals today.
  - b. Before you arrived here today, had any of you heard of Liberty Wildlife?
  - c. How many of you by a show of hands have brought us an animal for our hospital?
  - d. How many of you have come here to walk around?
  - e. How many of you is this your first time ever being here? (Most will raise hands!)
  - f. Now that you are here, what do you think LW does?
    - i. I generally take as many answers as I get even though some are repeat

- g. Tell them they pretty much got it all right – LW is a NON PROFIT WILDLIFE RESCUE REHABILITATION EDUCATION CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION. Which is just a long name for:
    - i. *Non-profit* – we don't get any money from the government. The money we use for feed and care for our animals comes from other birthday parties, field trips, visitors and donations from the public
    - ii. *Wildlife rescue* – pretty self-explanatory
    - iii. *Rehabilitation* – we are taking care of all the sick, injured and orphaned wildlife in our hospital with the hope of releasing them back to the wild
    - iv. *Education* – If they cannot survive in the wild, they can join our education side and get to meet people and schools
    - v. *Conservation* comes from the hope that when they leave ,they will appreciate the wildlife of Arizona a bit more and make sure to conserve habitats and take care of our lands
  - h. Do they think they'll see any lions? (NO!) Do they think they'll see any giraffes? (NO!) Do they think they'll see owls? (YES!)
    - i. We can take care of native wildlife which is the wildlife that lives here in AZ naturally and what we might see on a hike or in our own back yards.
    - ii. We are known for birds, but we take in all kinds of wildlife including bobcats, coatis, other mammals and snakes, lizards and even tarantulas
      - i. Rules
        1. Easy rules to follow and ones they probably follow at school
        2. No running even though it looks like a wide open space – we don't want anyone falling and getting hurt AND we don't want to scare the animals
        3. No yelling – it's great to be excited about the animals, but we don't want to scare them by having people yelling on campus so use your normal everyday voice
        4. Most important especially when on the Ed trail – Stay on the paths. Lots of people want to get a closer look in the enclosures, but what do birds of prey have to protect themselves? (TALONS) So please don't want on the rocks – just stay on the path
4. Present your animals:
- a. Give about 3-5 minutes for each animal with about 5 minutes of questions after each one
  - b. The kids are the main focus, of course, but the parents are just as engaged and excited. Please make sure to include them too!
5. After your final animal is done and you're finished with your presentation (20-25 min MAX – if you need to time yourself, please do):
- a. Thank you again for coming in today and spending your birthday with our animal ambassadors here at Liberty Wildlife
  - b. Happy birthday to XX!
  - c. While I'm all done with X and X (the names of your animals), you've got until X-time (whenever they're time is up) to walk our education trail and check out all our

other animal ambassadors. There are also other volunteers here who will have other animals out, plus you can check out X and X (any of the programs they can see during their time). You also have free range of this classroom until that time, so you're welcome to come take a break in here at any time.

- d. If you have any other questions or need anything else, please ask X (interpretive guide) in the lobby and she/he will be sure to get that done for you.
  - e. Have a great rest of your day here at Liberty Wildlife!
6. Unbox your animals and take them back to their mews
    - a. Flip cards back over and ensure mews are locked
    - b. Clean any poo off the floor in the classroom
    - c. Take your boxes and green mat back to the Ed trailer (wash if needed)
    - d. Make sure any leashes you used are hung back up
  7. Touch base with the guides to let them know you're finished and the party parents may be in if they need anything. Confirm the time the party should be done, and have the guides check on them at that time to see if they're on their way out.
  8. That's it, you're all done!