



## The Science & Technology Hotline

June 2010

## Planning for Next Year

With the summer holidays fast approaching we know that the last thing on your mind is the next school year ... but it's never too early to prepare!

Praxis has a variety of hands-on learning kits and other resources which are available for your use in the classroom.

Bookings can be made as early as June 1 for the following school year.

Book your resources early to avoid missing out on the kits you want (some kits book up right away!)

Learning kits can be booked in one of four convenient ways:

1. Call the office at 403-527-5365.
2. Fax us at 403-528-6570
3. Email us at [praxis@praxismh.ca](mailto:praxis@praxismh.ca)
4. Find a bookings form on our website at [www.praxismh.ca](http://www.praxismh.ca)

**And don't forget!**

**Praxis is open all summer long!**

## Summer Camps

Once again this year, Praxis is pleased to present Summer Science Camps in conjunction with Medicine Hat College.

Camps are for a variety of ages and there are lots of great topics!

Here's a list of the camps being offered this summer:

### **Blast Off**

Ages 7+

July 26-30 or August 3-6

### **Bob the Builder**

Ages 5 & 6

July 12-16 or August 9-13

### **Camp CSI**

Ages 9+

July 12-16 or August 23-27

### **Can You Dig It**

Ages 7+

July 26-30

### **Gross Out Science**

Ages 8+

July 19-23 or August 3-6

### **It's A Bug's Life**

Ages 5-7

July 12-16 or August 9-13

### **Mind Blowing Science**

Ages 10+

July 12-16 or August 9-13

### **Robotics Mindstorm**

Ages 8-11

July 12-16 or July 19-23

### **Robotics NXT Generation**

Ages 10-12

July 19-23 or July 26-30

### **ScienTWISTS**

Ages 6-8

July 12-16 or July 16-30

### **Spa Science**

Ages 8+

August 3-6 or August 16-20

### **Spy Science**

Ages 10+

August 9-13 or August 16-20

### **The Land Before Time**

Ages 5 & 6

July 5-9 or July 19-23

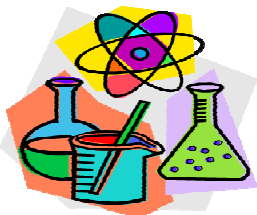
For more information about the camps or to register for them check out the Medicine Hat College website at [www.mhc.ab.ca](http://www.mhc.ab.ca)

## Summer Festivals

Look for Praxis at the following festivals over the summer.

There will be lots of fun, hands-on activities for the whole family to try!

- Spectrum Festival  
A Sunshine Event  
June 4-6  
Downtown
- Bow Island Children's Festival  
June 20  
Centennial Park  
Bow Island
- Canada Day  
July 1  
Kin Coulee Park



# History in the Hills

June 1-5 Elkwater, AB

## Go back in time ...

to experience First Nations and Metis culture!

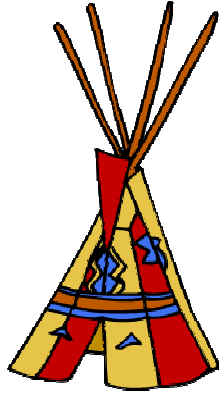
Explore an archaeological dig.

See tepees raised and hides tanned.

Taste fresh bannock.

Talk to a trapper.

For more information or for school bookings, please call us 403-527-5365.



# 24th Annual Cypress Hills (Alberta) Spring Bird Count

June 5 8:30am-2:30pm

Join park staff and volunteers for a day of bird-watching.

Register at the Visitor Centre, sign out equipment and review your Cypress Hills spring birds and their calls.

Hike or drive assigned routes.



## Test Your Dominant Side

### What you'll need:

A pen or pencil

Paper or a notepad to write your findings on

An empty tube (an old paper towel tube is good)

A cup of water

A small ball (or something soft you can throw)

### Instructions:

Write 'left' or 'right' next to each task depending on what side you used/favoured.

When you've finished all the challenges review your results and make your own conclusions about which is your dominant eye, hand and foot.

### Eye tests:

Which eye do you use to wink?

Which eye do you use to look through the empty tube?

Extend your arms in front of your body. Make a triangle shape using your fore fingers and thumbs. Bring your hands together, making the triangle smaller (about the size of a coin is good). Find a small object in the room and focus on it through the hole in your hands (using both eyes). Try closing just your left eye and then just your right, if your view of the object changed when you closed your left eye mark down 'left', if it changed when you closed your right eye mark down 'right'.

### Hand/Arm tests:

Which hand do you use to write?

Pick up the cup of water, which hand did you use?

Throw the ball, which arm did you use?

### Foot/Leg tests:

Run forward and jump off one leg, which did you jump off?

Drop the ball on the ground and kick it, which foot did you use?

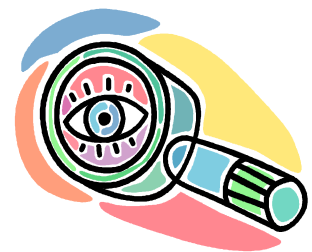
### What's happening?

So what side do you favour?

Around 90% of the world's population is right handed. Why most people favour the right side is not completely understood by scientists.

Around 80% of people are right footed and 70% favour their right eye. These percentages are lower than those who are right handed and this could be because your body has more freedom of choice in choosing its favoured foot and eye than that of its favoured hand. In other words you are more likely to be trained to use your right hand than your right foot and even more so than your right eye.

[www.sciencekids.co.nz/experiments.html](http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/experiments.html)



### For all your science needs

#### contact Praxis

P: 403-527-5365

F: 403-528-6570

E: [praxis@praxismh.ca](mailto:praxis@praxismh.ca)

[www.praxismh.ca](http://www.praxismh.ca)

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