

Fort Langley National Historic Site - Children's Fort

Fort Langley, BC



Trading post for toddlers

Fort Langley National Historic Site was a key post in the vast Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) and First Nations trading network in BC. Furs, fish and berries were traded here for blankets, metal tools and other European goods, then loaded onto ships to be exported around the world.

The historic fort creates an immersive historic experience for visitors of all ages, but Parks Canada wanted to create an exhibit just for very young children that would introduce them to concepts of trade, BC's rich natural resources and the important role of local First Nations in helping the HBC establish a thriving trade network here on the coast.

AldrichPears worked closely with Parks Canada and the fabrication team to create a fun, active and enriching play area for toddlers. Little traders can net salmon from a small canoe, pick magnetic cranberries, then exchange them at the kids' fort trade window. Salmon and berries can then be packed into barrels and rolled up the dock to be loaded on a tot-sized bateaux or the SS Beaver steamship. Kids can also try their hand at a diminutive fur press or build their own post and beam fort.

APA provided full design service for the children's area, from schematic design to contract administration.

