LETHBRIDGE ABECEDARIUM

Lethbridge’s ABC Colouring Book
Beautiful, multi-coloured ammolite is the official gemstone of both Alberta and Lethbridge. Formed from the ancient sea creature ammonite, ammolite represents wealth, abundance, good health and stamina and brings good luck to the owner. The Blackfoot prize ammolite as Iniskim or Buffalo stone.
Trains have crossed the big, black bridge for over 100 years. The High Level Bridge is 1.62 km long and 97 metres high. It was completed in 1909.
Coal - Sik-ooh-ko-toki - place of the black rocks - Blackfoot word for Lethbridge.
Coal - black rock miners from around the world dug from the coulees and prairies of Lethbridge.
Coal - fueled the trains, heated the homes, cooked the food.
Coal - beginnings of Lethbridge.
Dinosaurs roamed southern Alberta millions of years ago. They left behind clues for us to find. Have you ever found a fossil?
Southern Alberta has many types of energy: sun, wind, oil, gas and more. Energy makes machines run.
Care to make a trade? You could trade just about anything at Fort Whoop-Up. Bison (buffalo) hides were traded for pots and pan, blankets and beads, whisky and wares. Visit a replica of Fort Whoop-Up to learn about life at the fort.
G is for Galt. Sir Alexander Galt and Elliott Galt started our city. Elliott Galt is called the Father of Lethbridge. Stroll with your family or play in the fountain in Galt Gardens. Explore the history of the area at the Galt Museum.
Visit the Helen Schuler Nature Centre to learn about the plants, trees, birds and animals that share southern Alberta with us. The centre was named for Helen Schuler, a Lethbridge naturalist and educator.
I is for Irrigation

Irrigation makes southern Alberta grow. From sweet Taber corn to potatoes; from sugar beets to carrots, irrigation provides the water for many of our farms. Lethbridge is the Irrigation Capital of Canada.
Have you visited the Nikka Yuko Centennial Garden at Henderson Lake? Nikka Yuko means Japanese Canadian friendship. The garden was opened in 1967 by Prince and Princess Takamatsu.
The Kainai are one of the First Nations who live in southern Alberta. Kainai means Many Chiefs. The Kainai are part of the Blackfoot Confederacy which includes the Kainai, Piikani, Siksika and Blackfeet. Some Kainai live on the Blood Reserve; many live in Lethbridge.
Lethbridge was named for William Lethbridge. He invested money into the coal mines and railway and supported the early development of our community, so Sir Alexander Galt thanked him by naming our town Lethbridge.
The Mounted Police have been in Lethbridge for as long as there has been a Lethbridge. They were once known as the North West Mounted Police but are today the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.
Nicholas Sheran started the first coal mine in Lethbridge in 1874. Today there is a school, swimming pool, park and skating rink named for him.
Oo is for Oldman River

The river that runs past Lethbridge is called the Oldman River. The water in the river takes a LONG trip from the Rocky Mountains all the way to the Hudson Bay.
The prairies. Grasses, plants, animals, insects. People think the prairies are flat but there are hills and coulees, ravines and gullies. Many animals and birds call the prairies home. Do you think any could be hidden in the grass?
Beware the quills of the porcupines who live in southern Alberta. From a safe distance, see if you can watch a porcupine climb a tree. Did you know porcupines climb trees? Can you climb a tree?
R is for Ranching

Large ranches used to cover much of southern Alberta. Today there are still ranches but also farms. Cattle used to roam large open areas; now they’re fenced in. Once much of the work was done by men and horses; now they are helped by machines.
Every year the Southern Alberta Art Gallery displays art projects from local students - this display is called Art's Alive and Well in the Schools. Throughout the year you can see paintings, sculptures and other works of art at the SAAG.
Can you imagine Lethbridge with no trees? When Lethbridge started, there were some only in the river valley. The people of Lethbridge planted thousands of trees - for climbing, for shade, for picnics, for food, for the birds and animals.
The University of Lethbridge and Lethbridge College are busy schools. Thousands of students come to Lethbridge every year for school. Some people say the university looks like a ship sitting on the waves of the coulees. What do you think?
Our large river valley winds its way through Lethbridge. The valley is home to many animals and plants and provides a great place for the people of Lethbridge to walk, bike, hike and play. The parks in the river valley are connected by the Coalbanks Trail.
W is for wind. You don’t know Lethbridge, if you don’t know the wind. Lean into it, you’ll figure it out.
X is for Xeriscaping

Xeriscaping is gardening with plants from southern Alberta or plants that do not need very much water. If we use less water on our plants and grass, then there is more water for everything and everyone else.
You!
You’re part of the Lethbridge story. What do you do for fun? What are your favourite places in Lethbridge?
Did you know Lethbridge once had a zoo at Henderson Lake? It was a very small zoo with bears and an eagle. This was years and years ago.
The Lethbridge Historical Society is a chapter of the Historical Society of Alberta. The Society’s purpose is to promote and preserve the history of Lethbridge and southwestern Alberta. The Society is active in publishing books, working on plaques for historic buildings (with the City of Lethbridge and various partners), advocating for historic buildings, and more!

www.facebook.com/LethbridgeHistoricalSociety