



## FAQ's **Mission to Mars: Ag for Life's Rural and Farm Safety escape mail**

### **What is Mission to Mars escape mail?**

Borne out of necessity, Ag for Life's Rural Safety Unit lessons merged with Mobile Escape's escape mail, showcasing rural and farm safety messaging and innovative escape room elements in a playful new way. Mission to Mars is now Blasting Off - with a broader reach to your mailbox!

- Our friends at Mobile Escape, developers and innovators of the "escape mail" genre, traditionally "brought the escape room to you" across Alberta with their custom cargo trailers. They're also producers of innovative tabletop escape games. When COVID-19 hit, they reinvented their format to stay alive and #EscapeMail was born.
- Ag for Life's Rural Safety Unit also was disrupted. In normal times, our RSU is a travelling classroom, set up to guide students through curated interactive rural hazard identification and important safety lessons. The recent inclusion of escape room elements in cohesion with the existing trailer design was set to launch in spring 2020.
- Mission to Mars, engages participant imagination and learning with the premise of recruiting "safety advisors" to implement rural and farm safety protocol for our mission of safely growing food on Mars. Upon your group's registration, game packages are mailed directly to you for autonomous in-person play. Prospective recruits' skills are "tested" by solving puzzles and challenges via the supplied game assets, which include both manipulatives, and digital components. Participants apply their "Earthen" agricultural safety knowledge and learn how to recognise rural and farm hazards and keep themselves safe. Successful progression through the game modules within the interactive online portal earns each recruit their own Ticket to Mars!

### **What do I need to know for my group to participate?**

- Thanks to our safety minded program sponsors, Mission to Mars is completely **FREE!**
- Designed for **groups of 8-32 participants, grades K-12**, in-person play. (minor accommodations needed for groups outside this size range).
- Game play takes **approx. 1 hour**. Perfect for **schools, youth groups, associations and clubs**.
- Unsure if this is the right fit for your group? Contact us today.  
Our goal is to get important, potentially life-saving messaging to as many kids as possible.

### **Receiving game packages and when will they arrive?**

- Expect up to 10 business days for arrival. \*pandemic impacts may delay mailings.
- You'll receive 1 facilitator guide and ½ the number of participant packages as participants registered in a single shipment. (20 participants = 10 participant packages). Sharing assets between partners sets up best individual engagement with essential collaboration, though partners can join with another pair to make a quad, and so on as suits the learning

environment. Flexibility beyond 2 participants per package is also possible, but requires more sharing and turn taking.

#### **How challenging are the puzzles and what do I do if I'm stuck?**

- Escape room logic engages a different way of thinking and can be unsettling for those who are used to knowing the answer right away. Creative thinking and seeing from different perspectives helps identify solutions. The importance of group problem solving and looking to each other for inspiration and ideas, while collaborating together creates an unmatched dynamic for learning. We encourage student led discovery, relying on facilitator discretion to determine the level of intervention, to the level of challenge. Assistance through the use of helpful hints supplied for each module, as well as facilitator accessed solutions help guide progression and keep the difficulty just right – and the game pace on time!
- Because of vast differences in comprehension between grades, we've outlined distinctions to best suit grades 3 and under or grades 4 and up. We'll also supply a more challenging version for grades 7 and up.

**We are invested in your success and are here to support your experience in every way.**

**For more information visit our website or contact :**

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**Program Coordinator**

**403-585-8499**

[http://agricultureforlife.ca/misson-to-mars.](http://agricultureforlife.ca/misson-to-mars)

<http://agricultureforlife.ca>

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**\*Refer to Suggested Game Adaptions for following COVID-19 provincial health recommendations.**