



2nd Grade

JK Community Farm



Field Trip

Objectives & Rules

The JK Community Farm is deeply grateful to the growing community of generous supporters who have fostered the development of our education programming

Young children are naturally curious and creative thinkers, we hope to help children develop a solid foundation for understanding of the natural world, nutrition, and agriculture.. Please use this time to explore the JK Community Farm and make connections with your child's curriculum and nature. Our education activities were carefully curated to meet Virginia's standards of learning for each grade level and integrated into the JK Community Farm.

For our self guided field trips, rules provide the structure necessary for an engaging and productive class. Please be mindful of social distancing at the JK Community Farm, masks are optional as long as distance is maintained. Please be gentle with our plants as they are growing to feed families in our community in need of our help.



Essential Questions

Discuss these questions with your student throughout the field trip.

What are the seasons?

What is soil?

What are the stages of the plant cycle?

Where does food come from?

How do humans and plants affect each other?

Seasons and Seasonality

What foods are in season at the farm? Check off the varieties growing, can you tell what season we are in? Discuss the Months that fall into each season.



Fall

Kale
Broccoli
Cabbage
Cauliflower
Winter Squash
Arugula
Beets
Carrots
Cucumber
Sweet Potatoes

Winter

Kale
Carrots
Lettuce
Spinach
Radishes
Turnips

Spring

Kale
Arugula
Beets
Carrots
Lettuce
Spinach
Asparagus
Swiss chard
Radishes

Summer

Kale
Broccoli
Cabbage
Tomatoes
Carrots
Cucumber
Lettuce
Sweet Corn
Watermelon

Comparisons in Nature



Activity

Walk the farm and identify the food growing on plants.

Can you compare these foods to ones you find at the grocery store? Use the decision making process to determine which foods are healthy or unhealthy.

Questions

- Which plant has more vegetables growing?
- Which is more healthy, peppers or pizza?
- Which is a healthier choice, sugar or honey?
- Foods growing on the plants are "in season", what does this mean?

Materials

- Blank paper
- Crayons
- Colored Pencils

Measurements

Mass, volume, length, and estimations



Activity

Objects and plants at the farm come in all shapes and sizes. Use the scale outside of the greenhouse to show students the differences in mass, volume, and size.

Ask the student to make estimations prior to weighing each object.

Record the weights on paper.

Ask the student to weigh a variety of objects and record the weights. Were the estimations close?

Questions

- If we are getting to the farm at x, and we stay for 1 hour, what time will it be when we leave?
- What time is it? How do we read the clock?
- How are sundials used?
- What time does the sundial show?
- How many minutes are in 1 hour?

Materials

Tape Measure
Blank Paper
Crayons
Colored Pencils

Plant Life Cycle

life processes



Activity

Begin in the greenhouse to help students understand the cyclical nature of a plants life. **Make your way from the greenhouse and around the farm to identify the stages of the plant life cycle (seed, young plant, mature plant, flower, fruit)**

When you get to the fruit, ask "what happens now?" work with the student to **explore how the fruit grows back to seed.**

Questions

- Where do seeds come from?
- What does the plant need to grow?
- How do plants produce oxygen and food?
- What happens if the plant does not get water and nutrients?
- Do we need water and nutrients??

Materials

Blank Paper
Colored Pencil
Crayon

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- Do we need water and nutrients??

Materials

Blank Paper
Colored Pencil
Crayon

Find the seed



Activity

Explore the JK Community Farm and discuss where seeds come from. Introduce the different crops growing on the farm and "find the seed". Where are the seeds on the pepper plants, asparagus, kale, winter squash?

Ask the student to describe what they have observed and where they think the seeds are or will be on their plant.

Questions

- Where are the seeds?
- When is planting season?
- Are these seeds ready to plant?
- How do the seeds grow?

Materials

Blank Paper
Colored Pencil
Crayon

Garden Observations



Activity

As you explore the JK Community Farm, ask the student to make as many observations as they can in the garden.

Ask the student to write down the names of the plants (and animals) that you see in the garden.

Questions

- What plants do you see?
- What structures are at the farm?
- Do you see any tools?
- Do you see any animals?
- Can you estimate how many plants you saw?

Materials

Blank Paper
Colored Pencil
Crayon

Patterns and Estimations



Activity

Observe patterns you see at the JK Community Farm such as in the rows, raised beds, greenhouse, plants, and leaves. **What patterns did you see? Where were they?**

As you make observations, ask the student to make estimations about how many vegetables are on each plant. **Use your paper and a crayon to make a "rubbing" of patterns you observe.**

Questions

- What pattern do you see?
- Do all of the leaves have the same patterns?
- Do any of the patterns look similar?
- Are there more than or less than 10 vegetables on the plant?

Materials

Magnifying Glass (optional)
Blank Paper
Colored Pencil
Crayon

Learning Time in Nature



Activity

Walk to the human sundial at the top of the JK Community Farm. **Ask the student to read the numbers on the clock.**

Have the student stand in the middle of the sundial. **The time will be shown by their shadow, ask the student to read the time.**

Can you verify the time with an analog clock?

Questions

- How many numbers are on the clock?
- What time does the sundial show?
- What time does the analog clock show?

Materials

Blank Paper
Colored Pencil
Crayon

Explore and Discuss

At the JK Community Farm



Nutrition

Food contains nutrients that our bodies need to live and grow. Nutrients allow us to move, think, digest, rebuild, and heal.

We get the most nutrients from our food when it is local, seasonal, colorful, and organic.



Bee Hives

Discuss how bees play an essential role in agriculture - pollinating crops, increasing yields and producing honey.

Over 1/3 of the food we eat relies on pollination by bees.



Food Insecurity

Food Insecurity is when a person or family does not have consistent access to enough food for a healthy life.

The JK Community Farm donates all of the food grown to local food pantries to make sure everyone has access to healthy food



Here are some tips to cultivate a culture of caring in young children

Offering opportunities for outdoor play will promote an essential connection to nature. Through caring relationships with nature, our food and our communities, children become interested in engaging in a healthy and just present and future.

✓ Duration

Try to keep the duration of the project short. Young children's interests change rapidly. Service learning will be most effective if children start and finish the project in a short amount of time.

✓ Listen

Listen to children when they have an idea for making a difference. Ask them questions to guide their thinking about what may or may not be feasible.

✓ Make Connections

Help children make connections between their interests, experiences, and learning by asking, "how can we help?" and "Is there something we can do?"

is everything clear?

Please find Samantha and Farmer Mike at the Farm for any questions.

We'd love to help!

www.jkcommunityfarm.org



Thank you for a lovely field trip

We hope you had a great time and learned a lot! Below is some additional information on the farm!

Volunteer

We welcome volunteers of all ages throughout the season to join us for planting and harvesting projects. Sign up is available at

www.jkcommunityfarm.org/volunteer

Donate

As a nonprofit, we rely on our community to help us grow. This year the JK Community Farm will donate 135,000 lbs of healthy food to the food insecure in our region, but we need your help to expand.

www.jkcommunityfarm.org/donate

Follow

Keep up with the farm and events on social media

[@jkcommunityfarm](https://www.instagram.com/jkcommunityfarm)

We're on instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn!

