



3rd 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 is compost?

What is soil?

How do we get energy?

Where does food come from?

What is the role of water?

Digestion

What are the steps to Digestion? Discuss, and ask the student to put the steps in order by number. Digestion is a North to South process.



Small Intestine: Nutrient molecules are absorbed into the bloodstream.

Stomach: Continues the mechanical breakdown of food, along with a number of chemical activities

Large Intestine: Recycles water, waste material, converts lost nutrients to vitamins, forms and expels feces.

Brain: The sight and smell of food triggers the salivary glands to begin producing saliva.

Mouth: The physical gateway to the digestive system

Components of soil



Activity

Soil is made up of a mixture of sand, silt, clay, and organic material.

Different soil types have differing percentages of each.

Fill your jar 1/3 of the way with soil from the JK Community Farm (any site is great). Fill your jar until it is 3/4 full with water from the hose. Put the lid on and shake.

Let your jar sit until the end of the fieldtrip to observe. Record and draw observations.

Questions

- Do you see different layers?
- Can you measure each layer?
- Identify the soil layers, the bottom layer is sand, then silt, then clay. Water is next, and organic matter on top.

Materials

Blank paper
Crayons
Colored Pencils
Jar with lid
Measuring Tape

Sources of Energy

Renewable and nonrenewable energy



Activity

Renewable energies generate from natural sources that can be replaced over a short period of time.

Explore the farm looking for sources of renewable and nonrenewable energy, **Investigate and discuss with the student to understand different sources of energy. Record your findings and suggestions.**

Questions

- What are examples of renewable energy?
- Which is better for the environment? Why?
- What are examples of renewable energy at the farm?
- What are examples of nonrenewable energy at the farm?

Materials

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

Addition and Subtraction



Activity

Explore the JK Community Farm, collect objects that can be used to show addition, subtraction, division, and multiplication. Ask the student to record the math problem and the answer. Help the student verify the the answer on a calculator.

Ex. if I have 9 peppers and I take away $\frac{1}{3}$, how many peppers do I have left?

Questions

- 8 rocks minus 2 rocks?
- Can you show $\frac{1}{2}$ of a pepper?
- Which is greater, $\frac{1}{3}$ of a pepper or $\frac{1}{4}$?
- Is 8 closer to 5 or 10?
- If I have 6 rocks and I multiply them by 2 how many rocks do I have?

Materials

Blank Paper
Colored Pencil
Crayon
Calculator

Learning Time in Nature



Activity

Walk to the human sundial at the top of the JK Community Farm.

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.

Utilize the sundial to calculate elapsed time.

Questions

- What time does the sundial show?
- What time does the analog clock show?
- What time will it be in two hours?
- If we eat lunch at 1pm and we are going on a walk 3 hours later what time will it be?

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

Benefits of Water



Activity

Plants need water just like we do, water is most important nutrient for plants, animals, and humans. [Explore the farm to learn about our irrigation process.](#)

Ask the student about the important roles of water, and what happens to the plants if they don't get enough water.

Questions

- What are the roles of water?
- How do plants absorb water?
- How do we absorb water?
- What are the signs of dehydration? What does a dehydrated plant look like?
- How much water did you drink today?

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!



JK COMMUNITY FARM