



Field Trip Teachers and Leader's Guide

Thank you for scheduling a field trip to Jack Creek Farms. We want your visit to be memorable, fun and safe. To ensure a smooth and enjoyable visit, please read this entire guide for important details.

What to wear:

Children should wear clothes and shoes appropriate for outdoor play including closed toe shoes and pants. Straw bales and pumpkin plants are prickly! Weather can be unpredictable in October, and dressing in layers is advised.

What to bring (Teachers/Leaders):

- 1) **An envelope with full payment** for all participating children inside. Please write the number of children and the total dollar amount included on the outside of the envelope.
- 2) **At least 2 Sharpies** to write each child's name on the bottom of their pumpkin so there is no confusion or sad faces when you get back to the classroom.
- 3) **Hand sanitizer:** If you plan on bringing a snack, please bring hand gel for all of your students.
- 4) **Trash Bags:** If you are bringing a snack, please bring empty trash bags to take any leftover lunch packaging home with you.

Upon arrival, a Jack Creek Farms guide will meet you. Please assemble your group at the designated staging area (just outside of Happy Acres), where a Jack Creek Farms representative will give your group a brief overview of farm rules and locations of activities and also our outhouse and hand wash sink facilities.

For the best farm experience, break your group up into smaller groups of 5-6 children per chaperone, parent or teacher. Each parent/teacher will lead their group through the stations we have set up including:

1) **Farm Animals**

In the farm animal area (adjacent to and above picnic area) your children can view farm animals close-up. **Please don't allow the children to feed the goats ground-fall apples!** It will give them a tummy ache! If your students are quiet and speak softly, the bunnies should come out for a visit.

2) **Fort Polliwog Maze**

At this station your children can enjoy finding their way through our Fort Polliwog maze. Look for the entrance and exit signs.

3) **The Picnic Area**

This area is the hub of our old-time make-believe activities. Those activities include **Old Fashioned Laundry Cabin, Farmer's Market, Flower Truck, Plush Chicken Egg Gathering, Strawbale Ponies, Sand Trough, Little Buckaroo Café, Feedbag Toss** and **Connect Four**. Please be sure all play pieces stay in each designated area. If you are having a snack during your visit, you may use the picnic tables in this area. Remember you need to bring hand gel, and a trash bag to take all leftover lunch packaging you brought back to school with you.

4) **The Corn Bin**

This is a farm favorite. Children can remove their shoes. Please discourage throwing corn, and try to keep as much corn inside the bin as possible. **PLEASE don't allow children to feed the goats or rabbits corn or apples** – it will give them a tummy ache!

5) **Field Trip Pumpkin Patch**

We have placed palm sized pumpkins in the special field trip "pumpkin patch" between the animal pens and tractor tire garden. Please let each child choose "one" pumpkin only. Write their name on the bottom with a Sharpie pen, and place their pumpkin in the wagon to take back with your group. We will have reusable heavy plastic bags available to keep classes separate and tote your pumpkins home.

6) **Tractor Tire Garden**

At this station your children can enjoy playing on the tractor tires.

7) **Spookly Storybook Trail**

Please keep your students/group together and follow the storybook trail on the row crop side of the tractor tire garden. Each group may stop at posted stations and participate in the discussion. If you have younger children, feel free to skip the discussion panels.

8) **Wooden Train**

Please review posted Wooden Train rules! No standing on the roof or smokestack of train.

9) Hay Stack

Another farm favorite. Please review posted Hay Stack rules! No moving bales, throwing hay, or pushing or shoving. Before boarding the bus or loading into vehicles, the hay stack is a great spot to pose for a group photo.

If your group has time, you may re-visit as many of the activities you desire until it is time for your group to leave.

Self Guided Field Trip Important Details:

- 1) Upon arrival the teacher or leader should check-in, inside the main farm market, confirm how many children are participating in the field trip, and pay for all participating children at that time.
- 2) The charge for EACH child that participates is **\$10** per child and includes a small palm sized pumpkin. Siblings that want to participate in the activities and choose a pumpkin from the patch must also pay the **\$10** fee. There is no charge for teachers, parents, chaperones or bus drivers. You may upgrade to a larger carving sized pumpkin for an additional **\$3**. Let us know in advance if you would like that option. We also have a Spookly Book and Plush combo for **\$20**.
- 3) The minimum cost for morning tours is **20** children or **\$200**. If you have less than the number of children required, **the minimum \$200 fee** will apply. Afternoon tours have a minimum of **10** children or **\$100**. If you have less than the number of children required, **the minimum \$100 fee** will apply.
- 4) The tour takes approximately 1 hour (1.5 hours if your school children bring lunch or a snack). Please plan on taking any food containers or wrappers your group brings home with you. If you bring your own lunch or snack please bring disinfectant gel for each child as well.
- 5) In case of bad weather, cancellation and rescheduling decisions will be made the day before the trip. Please give us at least 48 hours notice if you need to cancel your tour for reasons other than weather.
- 6) Portable outhouses and a hand wash sink will be available.

*We ask groups to please arrive on time. **Teachers should collect money ahead of time and have all funds in an envelope marked with the number of children participating and the total amount enclosed.** If your group arrives late, we may have to shorten or omit some activities.*

Thank you for helping us to keep our farm safe and fun!

