

FARM DAY TEACHER GUIDE

Presented by: El Dorado Ag in the Classroom

Information & Resources



Teaching a Growing Generation

FARM DAY CHECKLIST



- ☐ Register for Farm Day (begins early January)
- ☐ Request and submit payment
- ☐ Reserve transportation with district
- ☐ Attend Farm Day Teacher's Meeting (see email for details)
- ☐ Gather permission slips
- ☐ Confirm transportation with your district
- ☐ Get your class ready using Ag in the Classroom resources
- ☐ **Attend Farm Day!**
- ☐ Submit Thank You notes by the end of the school year

PURPOSE OF FARM DAY

Does Chocolate Milk Come From Brown Cows?

That question may seem silly to many adults, but some children may be surprised to learn that chocolate milk starts out white and is only brown because chocolate is added to it. Farm Day will help students understand where food, fiber and forest products originate and how they are used in everyday life.

The purpose of Farm Day is to educate El Dorado County's 3rd grade students about agriculture in order to have a better understanding of the industry. *Agriculture in the Classroom* aims to correct many common public misconceptions and misunderstandings such as "Does chocolate milk come from brown cows?".

This Farm Day Field trip is designed for 3rd grade students (2nd/3rd grade and 3rd/4th grade combo classes also accepted) in El Dorado County. Upon arrival, nearly 1,400 students are greeted by the smells and sounds of Farm Day. Classes rotate to different learning stations throughout the day. They will experience a total of 8 presentations to learn about all aspects of agriculture and farming including animals, forestry, irrigation, watersheds, invasive and beneficial insects and nutrition.

This incredible day of learning requires 300+ volunteers from all over Northern California!

Topics

- Nutrition
- Food Preservation
- Worm & Soil I'm
- Horses
- Goats
- Poultry
- Cattle
- Pigs
- Alpaca, Llama, Sheep
- Invasive & Beneficial Insects
- Milk & Dairy
- Forests
- Organic Pest Management
- Watersheds & Irrigation
- Land Stewardship
- Bats

SAMPLE SCHEDULE & MAP



Zorn's Class



Period	Station Number-Presentation Title	Presented By
Opening 9:45-9:55	Welcome to Farm Day!	Ag in the Class
First 10:00-10:20	29-A Bit about Bats	NorCal Bats
Second 10:25-10:45	8-Desktop Gardens	CA Found. for Ag in the Class
SNACK 10:45-11:00	<i>Snack Time!</i>	<i>Enjoy!</i>
Third 11:05-11:25	21-Animals Got <u>The</u> Beat	Central Sierra ROP
Fourth 11:30-11:50	44-Worms Eat Our Garbage	Master Gardeners
LUNCH 11:50-12:25	<i>Lunch Time!</i>	<i>Enjoy!</i>
Fifth 12:55-1:15	34-Colors from the Farm	Arts and Culture Council
Sixth 12:55-1:15	-Leaving Early	
Seventh 1:20- 1:40	-Leaving Early	



CHILD SAFETY

1. All students, teachers, chaperones, and volunteers must wear a name tag at all times. Please include the school and teacher's name.
*Place a yellow dot on student's name tag if they are not to be photographed.
2. Names of accompanying adult chaperones must be provided by the teacher at check in on the morning of Farm Day.
3. For security purposes, "drop in" family visitors are not allowed.
4. All students must remain in the presence of a teacher or an adult chaperone AT ALL TIMES. If a student needs to leave the class group (i.e., restroom, first aid station), the student must be chaperoned by an adult.
5. If a student becomes separated from class group a teacher or chaperone in charge must immediately alert a Farm Day representative at the following cell phone numbers:

Melissa Neal: 530-409-4504

Security measures will be implemented.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR TEACHERS

1. If I have a split class, may I bring both grade levels or only third graders? This event is designed for third grade students and is focused to meet California state curriculum standards for third grade; however, if your split class includes third graders, they are all welcome to attend!

2. May students' siblings attend the field trip? No, we prefer that your students' siblings not attend the field trip. They will get their chance to attend when they are in third grade.

3. Will there be food available for students, chaperones and teachers? All participants must bring lunches, drinks, and snacks. Food, drinks, and snacks **will not** be available for purchase. Lunches will be stored in the Marshall Building. **We do recommend students bringing refillable water bottles.**

4. How many chaperones can attend? We ask that no more than a ratio of 1 adult to 5 students attend, and a minimum of 1 adult to 8 students attend. For a group of 20 students there should be **3 to 4 adults, counting the teacher.** Notify all chaperones that there will be a lot of walking and standing at Farm Day. Please refer to the Chaperone FAQ for more information for adult chaperones.

5. How many students will be in each group? Your class will stay together as one group and rotate from station to station together throughout the day.

6. When will we know what our rotation schedule is and what exhibits we will see? When you arrive at the fairgrounds you will check in at the **"Teacher Check In"** station near the skate park. You will receive a teacher packet that includes a map of the fairgrounds with stations marked. You will receive a custom made schedule for your classroom that will tell you the stations your class will visit.

7. What happens when we arrive? When you arrive students and chaperones will wait in a designated area (lawn area) while you, the teacher, will check in. Everyone will gather at large lawn to participate in the **opening ceremony.**

Frequently Asked Questions Teachers (con't)

8. What happens if we arrive late? The event will start on time. If you arrive late you are to check in, figure out where your students should be according to your schedule, and then you will be escorted to the correct station so you can get started. Please call 530.303.8117 to let us know you're running late.

9. What happens if we get confused or need assistance? Adult and student volunteers wearing **red Farm Day T-shirts** can be found throughout the fairgrounds. Ask a volunteer, and they will get your question answered or help you find where you are supposed to be.

10. What do we do if a student is injured? If there is a life threatening emergency, call 911. A **First Aid** station will be located at the Corker Building near the Main Lawn. Please escort the student to the First Aid station and coordinate care with the First Aid Station.

11. What if a child needs to leave early? We expect the teacher or chaperone to be responsible to escort students to the appropriate parent or guardian if they need to be picked up early.

12. What do we do if our presenter finishes early? All classes should be at their designated stations at all times except during snack and lunch. If your class is done early at any point during the day or at the end of the day, please be quiet so others can continue their station. Stay at your station and do an early finisher activity. Please do not walk through any other stations, especially those handling heavy equipment.

A few suggested items to bring the day of:

Hand Sanitizer: There will be washing stations for those stations that handle animals but it is encouraged that teachers bring hand sanitizer for students.

Water: Even though there are water fountains located throughout the fairgrounds, it is convenient and wise to have water on hand. We do recommend students bringing refillable water bottles.

Rolling Ice Chests: You might want to consider bringing a rolling ice chest for lunches, as it will make transport a lot easier to the storage area.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR CHAPERONES

–FARM DAY

1. What can we expect during the field trip at the fairgrounds? This event is designed for 3rd grade students. After unloading from school buses students will gather in the lawn area just inside the Blue (near Raley's) Gate. Teachers will check in at a station at the lawn area and receive the schedule and a map of the stations the class will visit. The entire class will then participate in the opening ceremonies. The entire class will then go to your 1st learning station. You may hear a whistle when there are 5 minutes left in a presentation. When you hear the cow bell, it is your signal to move to the next station on your schedule. Most classes will visit eight different stations throughout the day. **Be prepared to do a lot of walking and standing on a variety of surfaces.**

2. What is the role of the chaperones with each classroom? Your role is to assist the teacher with the class. Please help maintain a focused learning environment so the presenters can concentrate on their presentation. Chaperones **must** escort students to bathrooms or the first aid station if needed. Your job as a chaperone will make sure that disruptive behavior is discouraged and that students are engaged in learning. Please refrain from talking/texting while at Learning Stations.

3. Can I bring my student's siblings along for the day? No. This program is designed for third graders and is curriculum-based for the third grade level.

4. Will there be food available for students, chaperones and teachers? No. There will not be food or drink available for purchase. All participants are required to stay on the fairgrounds during event hours. Bring food and water.

5. What if a child needs to leave early for any reason? The teacher or chaperone is responsible for ensuring the student is released to an appropriate parent or guardian if they need to be picked up early.

TO BE PRINTED AND PLACED IN ALL DRIVER WINDSHIELDS

BUS DRIVERS & VAN/CAR DRIVERS

Important: Drop off and loading zone is in the tiered parking lot above the skateboard park above the Blue Gate entrance.

School Name: _____

Driver Name: _____ Phone: _____

Event Address: El Dorado County Fairgrounds

100 Placerville Drive, Placerville, CA 95667

School Departure time: _____ a.m. (arrive by 9:30 a.m.)

Event Departure time: _____ p.m. (depart after 1:40 p.m.)

1. Proceed to the **Blue Gate** at fairgrounds on Amory Drive (turn east off of Placerville Drive) near Raley's. **Drop students off only at the tiered parking lot above the skateboard park above the Blue Gate entrance.** Farm Day volunteers will be directing traffic at the Blue Gate entrance. Students should safely disembark the bus or car and enter the fairgrounds.
2. If your vehicle is staying for the day, please **park only in the designated levels** of the tiered parking lot above the skateboard park.
BUSSES drop off/pick up AND/OR park in the 1st Tier (skate park parking lot)
Chaperones park in 2nd Tier parking.
3. **Pick up students in the tiered parking area at the end of the day.** Students are NOT allowed to cross the public road to board a bus or car. **Students are to load in the tiered parking lot loading zone only.**

“THANK A FARMER” PROJECT

“Thank A Farmer” gives students the opportunity to “thank a farmer” for their presentation at Farm Day. Students can thank any individual presenter or all presenters. Students should reflect on their favorite learning experience at Farm Day through a brief thank you note and illustration. Artwork will be shared with Ag in the Classroom’s Volunteers.

In creating artwork, children should think about these questions:

- What did you learn at Farm Day?
 - What was your favorite Learning Station? Why?
 - Did you meet a farmer or someone with an agricultural job? What do they do?
 - What senses did you use at Farm Day? Think about sights, smells, touch, sounds, tastes.
 - How do you use agriculture in your everyday life? Think about your foods and clothes.
-

Project Details:

- Artwork may be submitted in any form. For convenience, Ag in the Classroom has a template available online.
- Projects may be done individually, as a class or as a school
- El Dorado Ag in the Classroom reserves the right to copy and modify entry for reproduction.
- Projects will not be returned and may be used for future promotional opportunities.

Projects Should:

- Focus on student’s learning at Farm Day
- Be original, creative student work
- Be grammatically correct
- Be neatly handwritten and hand created artwork

Farm Day

Artist's Name: _____ Teacher's Name: _____

AG IN THE CLASSROOM YEAR ROUND

Donate

El Dorado County Ag in the Classroom is a local, grassroots, charitable (501c3) organization that provides quality agriculture-related educational resources, programs, and training opportunities. Our mission is supported and made possible by the generosity of our donors. Your donation can help children experience the wonder of soil, water, plants, and animals that contribute to the diverse agriculture in our community. Join the new *Growing the Seed* Program to support El Dorado Ag in the Classroom's mission!

Sponsor

There are numerous events as well as unrestricted opportunities allowing your business or organization the flexibility to meet your charitable giving goals. Ag in the Classroom offers many promotional benefits to sponsors. Financial and In-Kind contributions are greatly appreciated.

Volunteer

Volunteers are needed for events, to serve on committees, to give presentations, to share their expertise or specialty, or to help with agriculture's message at local schools.

Upcoming Opportunities

20 Mile Taste

Your taste buds will thank you for joining us at Ag in the Classroom's **20 Mile Taste** Fundraiser. This celebration of El Dorado County's bounty will showcase local produce prepared by local chefs, paired with local wine. Enjoy live music on the beautiful property of Rainbow Orchards.