



LC's Farm School @ Red Barn Ranch Parent Information Packet 2023-2024

Mission Statement

At LC's farm school, we provide a safe, happy and hands-on learning environment through authentic and nature based activities. We foster a love of learning and promote curiosity about the wonderful world around us.

Description of Program:

LC's farm school is an early childhood educational program providing a play and nature based learning environment for 3 to 5 year olds. Our school encourages imagination, creativity and fosters a love of learning. Our lessons are focused around the seasonal changes on our farm while encompassing preschool academics. Located in the beautiful setting of a working pumpkin patch and family farm, our school helps the development of emotional, mental, physical and social needs through practical activities and nature based experiences.

Disciplinary Philosophy:

At LC's farm school, we believe in being proactive in our discipline approach through a strong positive relationship with each student. We provide clear expectations and make sure that our students know and understand the expectations. We model behavior we want our students to imitate such as kindness, respect and self-discipline. If a student struggles with the expectations, we will redirect with positive language and give reminders of the expectations. Our discipline is consistent and fair.

Days and Times:

Monday/Tuesday- 8:30a-12:15p

Monday/Tuesday- 12:30p-4:15p

Wednesday/Thursday- 8:30a-12:15p

Wednesday/Thursday- 12:30p-4:15p

Friday- 8:30a-12:15p

LC's farm school will follow the Harrisonville School District's schedule for weather cancellations.



Daily Schedule:

Every day is an outside day!

We will begin each day outside. Students have free play time outside during drop-off time.

Once all of our friends are here, we head inside (or stay outside) for a brief circle time. We sing about the weather, talk about the season, day of the week, etc. We will also discuss our focus for the day, along with a mini-lesson centered around our preschool standards. We then do a craft or activity that works on age appropriate skills like holding a pencil, writing their name, cutting with scissors, etc.

Our classroom time also includes a snack break. Then, we put on our boots and gloves and head out for chores on the farm. Chores include things like feeding and watering the animals, collecting eggs, grooming the animals and anything else that needs to be done. Then we spend more time outside whether it be a scavenger hunt, science experiment, exploration of the farm or a special project.

Animal Care:

The animals at the farm are an important part of our day at LC's farm school. Whether we are feeding the chickens, putting down new straw, petting the rabbits or adventuring with the goats, animals are providing new learning at our school.

Our farm animals require responsibility and daily routine which are important skills for children to learn. Also, taking care of animals makes people happy and it helps teach compassion, empathy and sympathy. It can offer companionship as well as stress relief.

Clothes:

Rain or shine, our animals need to be tended to. Therefore, it is essential that your child be comfortable and mobile out in the elements. As Missourians, we will dress in layers that allow for changes in weather throughout the day. In Winter, students will need a warm hat, waterproof mittens, boots, wool socks, snowsuit, and/or snow pants and coat.

Students will leave their farm stuff (boots and gloves) in the classroom. They will come and go from farm school in regular shoes. Please make sure to dress your child in clothes that they can get dirty each day!



For boots, I recommend Croc or OutdoorMaster boots. You can find them on Amazon for around \$30. They are super easy to clean and good for all seasons.

Will my child be outside every day?

Barring severe weather, we will spend a large portion of our day learning/exploring outside. In the colder winter months, we will still be going outside, just for shorter periods at a time. We will be spending time in the classroom, milkbarn and animal barns to stay out of the weather.

Snacks and Meals:

Students will have snack time every day that they are at farm school. They can bring their own snack or one will be provided if they do not have one. No meals will be provided. Students are encouraged to bring a water bottle to have at school during the day. We have a filtered water system where their bottles can be refilled.

Units of Study:

Our curriculum follows nature and the things going on around us. In the fall, we will have corn, pumpkins, sunflowers growing on the farm. In the winter, we work in the snow and learn about groundhogs during groundhogs day. In the spring, we plant our own garden, hatch our own chicks and look for insects. We will make each of those things a focus of ours while we also learn about letters. For example: When we are learning about pumpkins, we will also be learning about the letter P. We will read books about pumpkins, do hands on activities and crafts with pumpkins and be able to see the pumpkin life cycle complete.

September/October/November: animals, trees, leaves, pumpkins, apples, corn

December/January/February: hibernation, snow, groundhog, arctic animals

March/April/May: life cycles, gardening, insects, birds, plants

Some activities we might do on the farm:

Hatch baby chicks, plant a small garden, groom the animals, feed and water the animals, explore creeks, look at leaves and trees, make ice cream, jump in puddles, collect and count eggs, dig up worms, paint rocks/pumpkins, do chores around the patch, investigate bugs, experiment & explore and much more!



Communication:

We use email to communicate with all little rancher families. We use the Remind app when communicating with a class or individual rancher. Feel free to communicate through email or the Remind app when needed.

Contact Information:

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