



LC's Farm School @ Red Barn Ranch

Parent Information Packet

2022-2023

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 3-5 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 cancellations and no school days.



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 for a brief circle time. This time might include songs, read alouds, or experiments. We will also talk about our focus for the day, along with a mini-lesson that is centered around our preschool standards.

After circle time, we have indoor free play with things such as legos, blocks, sensory bins, play kitchens, etc. During this time, teachers work individually with students focusing on age appropriate skills like holding a pencil, writing their name, cutting with scissors, etc.

After free play, 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. Most of the time we spend more time outside whether it be a scavenger hunt, science experiment, exploration of the farm or a special project.

We then head inside for a snack and read aloud. Some days we will participate in art and music, while other days we will head back for more exploration of the farm.

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:

August- animals/meet animals on the farm/all about me

September- trees/leaves/acorns

October- pumpkins/pumpkin patch/apples

November- 5 senses

December- gingerbread/christmas

January- snow/arctic animals

February- groundhogs/Valentines Day

March- chicks/hatch chicks

April- plants/flowers/garden

May- bugs/insects/birds

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!



Academic goals (varies by age):

Recognize upper and lowercase letters

Count to 20

Write first name

Recognize numbers to 20

Recognize shapes (circle, square, triangle and rectangle)

Recognize colors (red, green, orange, blue, black, purple, brown, yellow)

Rhyme words

Beginning sounds of words

Patterns

Write numbers to 10

Answers who, what, where, when and how questions

Match and sort objects by shape, size or color

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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