Overview

Join Coggeshall Educators as we explore the natural ecosystems and habitats around us. Discover how plants, animals, and humans work together to create a rich and beautiful world and find out how we can be stewards of the earth starting in our own backyards. Through hands-on activities, learn how Coggeshall is answering the important question: What can farming from the past teach us about farming for our future?

This program is approximately 3 hours long, including time for lunch, playtime, and three thirty-minute activity stations led by our history education team.

Essential Questions

1. How does caring for the soil affect the entire food web?
2. How can farmers work with wild and domestic animals to care for the land?
3. How does the food people ate then and now affect our farms and our bodies?

Student Quote: “I liked holding the worms and seeing how the tiniest bugs are important on a farm.”
On the day of...

An educator will meet your group at the buses and get you all checked in. After exiting the bus, students will be led to our central meeting spot to go over rules and expectations for the farm and its animals. From there, students will break into three groups and visit three different stations around the farm that will get them hands-on with history, each led by our expert history educators. Students will also have a break part way through for lunch and recess, with our historic games and toys and open fields to run and play. At the end of the trip, an educator will lead you safely back to the bus and see you off!

Station 1: Decomposers and the Garden

Students will get hands-on and dirty with decomposers. After learning about food chains and the life cycle, students will meet our smallest farm animals— the worms! Students will learn about the importance of decomposers in a healthy ecosystem, compare and contrast soil types, and try their hands at pitching compost.

Station 2: Animals and their Habitats

Meet some of the hardest workers on our farm— the pigs! Learn about how farmers use livestock to shape their land, and how embracing animals’ natural instincts can work together to create a healthier environment. Then, take a nature trail hike (0.25 miles) to search for habitats and ecosystems on the farm that allow wild animal populations to thrive.

* Pigs are at Coggeshall Farm Museum seasonally. Late fall and winter field trips explore hibernation and migration of wild animals.

Station 3: Learning from History

Working with—and not against— the land is essential for creating a healthy ecosystem for humans, plants, and animals. Learn how indigenous people of the Americas have been working with the land for thousands of years, and what modern farmers can learn from their practices. Students will learn about the Three Sisters and try their hand at identifying food plants.
Principal Quote: “This immersive experience thoroughly engaged our students in hands-on, project-based learning in a historical setting. Students were able to make immediate connections to the past and reflect on how that will shape their future.”

What can farming from the past teach us about farming for our future?

Grade Level Standards

Next Generation Science Standards (3-5)

Matter and Energy in Organisms and Ecosystems

5-PS3-1., 5-LS1-1., 5-LS2-1.

Inheritance and Variation of Traits: Life Cycles and Traits

3-LS1-1., 3-LS4-4., 3-LS4-3

RIDE History GSEs

Historical Perspectives Strand

HP 1 (3-4) –1 HP 4 (3-4) –2,
HP 5 (3-4) –1 HP 5 (3-4) – 2

Civics and Government Strand

G 2 (3-4) –1, G 2 (3-4) –3, G 3 (3-4) –2
G 4 (3-4) – 2, G 4 (3-4) – 3

Ready to Book?

Book directly by submitting a request through our website.

Website: https://www.coggeshallfarm.org/education/

Have more questions? Send us an email!

Email: CoggeshallEd@osv.org