Program Description

Students will learn how to use their senses to observe the similarities and differences between plants we use for food and animals we use for food. They will discover that most food comes from farms and is processed or changed before we eat it. Students will also spend time comparing the plant and animal diversity in different ecosystems.

Program Objectives

Students will:
- Discover much of the food we eat is grown on farms and comes from plants and animals and needs to be processed before eaten
- Explore the different plant parts that make food
- Learn that different places (such as farms, prairies, wetland, forests) have different plants and animals living in them

Program Outline

** Activities may vary based on group size and length of trip

1. Farm Stations: Students will rotate through different stations focused on the importance each place plays in the farm. Possible stations include:
   a. Animal Barn (pigs, turkeys, chickens, goats)
   b. Garden Exploration
   c. Farms as an Ecosystem
   d. Compost
2. Trail Activities: Students will stop and make observations about an ecosystem while on the trail (wetland, forest, prairie)
3. Cider Pressing
4. Group Game

Quick Facts

Season: Fall (Sept-Nov)

Grades: 2nd

Program length: 4 hours

Max # of students: 80

Standards Connections:

2.LS.1 Determine patterns and behavior (adaptations) of parents and offspring, which help offspring to survive.
2.LS.3 Classify living organisms according to variations in specific physical features (i.e. body coverings, appendages) and describe how those features may provide an advantage for survival in different environments.

Vocabulary

- Habitat
- Ecosystem
- Processed
- Recipe
- Leaf
- Stem
- Root
- Soil

Contact Katie Stoltzfus at kcstoltzfus@goshen.edu or 260-799-5869 with any questions.