



Quick Facts

Season: Fall (Sept-Nov)

Grades: 5th

Program length: 4 hours

Max # of students: 80

Standards Connections:

5.LS.2: Observe and classify common Indiana organisms as producers, consumers, decomposers, or predator and prey based on their relationships and interactions with other organisms in their ecosystem.

Vocabulary

- Ecosystem
- Consumer
- Producer
- Decomposer
- Processed

Program Description

Students will spend time learning about the importance of farms in food production. Humans are consumer who rely on producers and other consumers for food. Students will also spend time comparing the plant and animal diversity in different ecosystems. They will explore how farms affect, and are affected by, other ecosystems around them.

Program Objectives

Students will:

- Discover much of the food we eat is grown on farms, comes from plants and animals, and needs to be processed before eaten
- Learn that different places (such as farms, prairies, wetland, forests) have different plants and animals living in them
- Explore how humans and farms are part of Earth's ecosystems

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