



# Merry Lea Environmental Learning Center of Goshen College

## Exploring Merry Lea Sustainable Farm: K

P.O. Box 263, Wolf Lake, IN 46796 <https://www.goshen.edu/merrylea> 260-799-5869

### Quick Facts

**Season:** Fall (Sept-Nov)

**Grades:** K

**Program length:** 4 hours

**Max # of students:** 80

### Standards Connections:

**K.PS.1:** Plan and conduct an investigation using all senses to describe and classify different kinds of objects by their composition and physical properties. Explain these choices to others and generate questions about the objects.

**K.LS.1:** Describe and compare the growth and development of common living plants and animals.

**K.LS.2:** Describe and compare the physical features of common living plants and animals.

**K.LS.3:** Use observations to describe patterns of what plants and animals (including humans) need to survive.

### Vocabulary

- Habitat
- Forest
- Wetland
- Prairie
- Farm
- Processed
- Recipe

### 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 is processed or changed before we eat it.

### Program Objectives

Students will:

- Discover much of the food we eat is grown on farms and comes from plants and animals
- 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
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