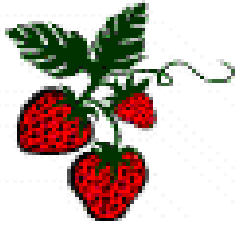
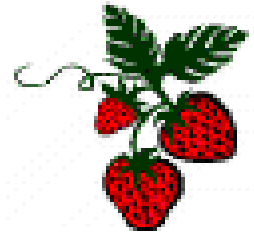


VANN STRAWBERRY FARM, L.L.C.



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Our Farm Educational Tours

Spring Strawberry Tours

During the spring season, we offer guided educational field trips of our strawberry farm and peach orchard to school groups. As part of the tour package, a guide will discuss with the students how strawberries and peaches are grown. Students will then be allowed to pick strawberries.

Students also will visit our bee hives, and learn how the bees are used to pollinate our fruits and vegetables; and how the bees use the pollen to produce honey. Students are very interested to observe the bees going and coming from their hives/boxes and to see them at work in the fields. Our guide will discuss with the students the various types of beneficial insects and the various types of harmful insects.

Students will have an opportunity to visit our tomato, watermelon and cantaloupe patches, as well as our flower and herb garden, which provides yet another wonderful learning opportunity. Our guide will discuss with the students the different parts of a plant, fruit, or flower. The level of informational detail provided by the guide will vary, depending upon the age level of the students.

Students are fascinated to see their teacher pick a nasturtium leaf and eat it, and to learn that nasturtium leaves and flowers are delicious in salads. The next thing that you know, the students are tasting them as well.

Students especially love picking our beautiful fresh zinnias and sunflowers. They are thrilled to learn that they can hang the mature sunflowers upside down to dry and use their seeds to grow more sunflowers. For educational purposes, all of our flower and herb species are clearly labeled.

Our vegetable and fruit farming operation is adjacent to a beautiful pond site, with ducks, turtles, and fish. The pond is used for crop irrigation, a process which the guide will discuss with the students as well.

At the completion of each tour, we will be serving strawberry ice cream to the students. Each student will receive an educational coloring book to take home with him/her, and will be allowed to take home a pint of fresh strawberries picked by that student.

Fall Harvest Tours

During the fall harvest season, we offer guided educational field trips of our peanut and cotton harvest to school groups. At Vann Farms, we grow and harvest hundreds of acres of these traditional row crops. Depending upon the date of the tour, the students will be taken by wagon to see the harvesting of our peanuts and/or cotton crops.

As part of the tour package, a guide will discuss with the students how peanuts and cotton are grown as well as explaining the harvesting process. This will include an age-appropriate discussion of the land preparation and planting process, irrigation and fertilization of the peanuts and cotton, harvesting, and sale of the farm products. Our guide will also discuss with the students the different parts of the peanut or cotton plant, with the level of informational detail varying, depending on the age level of the students.

Students also will have an opportunity to visit our bee hives, and learn how the bees are used to pollinate our fruits and vegetables; and how the bees use the pollen to produce honey. As with the spring tours, our guide will discuss with the students the various types of beneficial insects and the various types of harmful insects.

Students will visit a sugar cane mill which has been set up for observation. A guide will explain to the students how, many years, ago, the mill was used to process fresh sugar cane into syrup.

Students will be able to visit our fall vegetable garden and our flower and herb gardens, and to see our farm market store decorated for fall with pumpkins, Indian corn, sugar cane, and various autumn foliage.

At the completion of each tour, we will be serving strawberry ice cream to the students. Each student will receive an educational coloring book to take home with them, as well as one of the following: a small pumpkin, Indian corn or sugar cane, depending upon seasonal availability.

All Tours

Both our spring and fall tours offer a wonderful opportunity for students to observe a working farm in action. The tours are guided by a former school teacher who will stay with the students from arrival to departure.

The teacher guide will provide the students with age-appropriate, educational information about our farming operation. This will include providing students with a hands-on learning opportunity to cover various important state-mandated topics/test objectives in the areas of science, agriculture, and economics on which the students are tested each year. Depending upon class level, this could include such topics as the identification and function of the various parts of plants and flowers, the role of insects in pollination and in our eco-system in general, plant growth and life cycles, the food chain and nutritional issues, and the economics of our rural economy.

As mentioned above, upon departure, each student will receive an educational coloring book as a souvenir of his or her visit to Vann Strawberry Farms. The educational coloring book will vary, depending upon whether a spring strawberry tour or a fall harvest tour was taken.

We have a shaded picnic area and a playground area. Clean restroom facilities are also available. School groups (and other tour groups) are welcome to bring their own picnic lunches

to enjoy after completion of our educational farm tour. Students are also welcome to play on our playground.

Our farm and farm market are separated from the highway by an attractive four-board wooden fence, which we decorate each holiday season. This five-foot tall fence provides a buffer between our farm and the highway and provides additional assurance that the school children who visit our farm will have a safe, secure, and enjoyable tour.

How to Schedule a Tour

Please call us at 229-787-5133 or 229-787-1103 to set up your tour. We are located on U.S. Highway 19 in Mitchell County, Georgia, approximately seven miles north of Camilla or fifteen miles south of Albany (three miles south of Baconton).

We offer the most inviting and educational field trips in this area. It is a wonderful hands on opportunity to learn about agriculture and science.