A close up of a logo

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Schools Education Programme

Cogges Manor Farm offers an exciting year round Schools Education Programme. There are ten different programmes covering different age ranges from the Early Years Foundation Stage through to Key Stage 2. We offer full or half day sessions tailored to the needs of the school and curriculum. Cogges is a wonderful site for education and our sessions are adaptable for children with additional needs.

The programmes are as follows:

1. Enchanted Cogges
2. Practical Maths
3. Adventures Outside
4. Time Travellers – this covers Saxons and Victorians and can be a full or Half Day session
5. Farming for Food
6. Wildlife and Growing – seasonally tailored
7. Christmas through the Ages – this can be a full or Half Day
8. Old MacDonald – Story and Rhyme – Half Day session
9. Little Red Hen and Farmyard Friends – Half Day session
10. Jack and the Beanstalk – Half Day
11. Stick Day – Half Day

Each subject area is led by our trained Educational Facilitators and volunteers and has been carefully constructed to work in line with the National Curriculum covering key subject areas including history, geography, mathematics, literacy, citizenship, science and design. Our aim is to harness the unique environment at Cogges Manor Farm and create interactive learning experiences to inspire children of all ages.

“Children were highly engaged, and enjoyed every bit…I don’t know why we haven’t been before!” Francesca Jenkins, EYFS Coordinator St. Joseph’s Catholic

Primary School, Oxford

“The activities were perfectly pitched and well run and just the right length of time to keep the kids on track and engaged. They LOVED the puppet show at the end”

Richeldis Castree, The Blakes School, Witney

Enchanted Cogges (Full Day) - Key Stage 1

National Curriculum areas covered: Art, English (creative writing), maths and science.

Aim: To provide a light hearted exploration of Cogges, using the imagination to find ‘fairies’, create woodland creatures and environmental art, plant seeds and build shelters.

Learning outcomes:

* Thinking about habitats and what different animals need to live
* Understanding what plants need to grow
* Creating imagery using found resources
* Creating a structure using natural material
* Creating a story of magical creatures at Cogges

Description:

This session was created at the request of a local school and we are now offering it out to other schools. Based around the idea of ‘fairies’ at Cogges this session looks at where ‘fairies’ might live, creating a creature that might live alongside fairies, planting a seed, creating environmental art and a fairy shelter.

The cost of the programme is £78 per group for the full day. Groups of 12 children, maximum 5 groups or 60 children.

Practical Maths (Full Day) - Key Stage 2

National Curriculum areas covered: maths, science, literacy and geography.

Aim: To immerse and engage children with maths on a practical level. Getting them to understand that maths is everywhere we look.

Learning outcomes:

- Identifying different shapes and locating them around the farm.

- Using compass points and coordinates

- Estimating the number of shapes (biscuits) that can be cut from a certain amount of dough

- Use different types of scales to weigh out dry feed for animals

- Measuring with sticks

Description:

This session will immerse children in maths in a practical way. Measuring stick, finding shapes throughout the farm, measuring ingredients and weighing animal feed are all practical ways that maths is used in everyday life. What better way to engage children with maths than by doing it in situ.

The cost of the programme is £78 per group. Groups of 12 children, maximum 5 groups or 60 children.

Outside adventures (Full Day) - Key Stage 1 and 2

National Curriculum areas covered: maths, science, English, Art, PSHE/citizenship and PE.

Aim: To immerse and engage children outdoor learning. This could be seen as a taster day to a Forest schools experience, it is all about learning in a practical way outside.

Learning outcomes:

- Identifying different shapes and locating them around the farm.

- Working together with sticks

- Using fire safely understanding why it is needed and the dangers of it

- Identify that items in the natural environment e.g. leaves can be used instead of paints to create a piece of art

- Measuring with sticks

Description:

This session will immerse children in outdoor learning, from building a shelter to cooking over a fire to how to have fun with sticks and create art in nature. This session looks at trust and how activities can be carried out by working safely. It will also allow young people to explore the outside world considering other animals that live within it and the habitats they need.

The cost of the programme is £78 per group. Groups of 12 children, maximum 5 groups or 60 children.

Time Travellers, Victorians or Saxons (Full Day or Half Day)   
- Key Stage 1 and 2

National Curriculum areas covered: history, science, maths, PSHE/citizenship and geography.

Aim: To immerse and engage children in our historical past. To leave them with a feeling of awe and understanding at how our ancestors lived their everyday lives.

Learning outcomes:

- A greater understanding of everyday life in historical times.

- An appreciation of how life was different then compared to now

- how buildings were constructed

- where and how water was collected

- how people cooked, how diet, shopping and storing food have changed

Description:

This is an interactive and lively history based session, which keeps children fully engaged. The programme is flexible and can be tailored to focus on the Saxon or Victorian period as well as on local history if required. Sessions include hands on activities such as, Victorian Laundry, making the bed, decoding and making runes, making Welsh cakes or flatbreads, grinding grain, shelter building. Please discuss your specific requirements with us.

The cost of the programme is £78 per group for the full day and £52 per group for the half day. Groups of 12 children, maximum 5 groups or 60 children.

Farming for Food (Full Day) - Key Stage 2

National Curriculum areas covered: science, mathematics, history, literacy, and design.

Aim: To enhance the children’s understanding of farming and the provenance of healthy and environmentally sustainable food production. Considering how our choices impact the planet e.g. air miles and ethical choices that need to be made to feed an ever increasing population.

Learning outcomes:

- Develop a knowledge of farming systems and processes, both past and present.

- Know where and how a variety of ingredients are grown, reared and processed.

- Appreciate the wide variety of issues that influence the decisions farmers make.

- Understand their own role as a consumer and reflect on their food decisions

- Think about how we can continue to feed an ever increasing population with the space and lad we have around us.

Description:

This is an in-depth programme delivering a 360-degree appreciation of bringing a farmed product to market. Children are hands-on throughout the day and involved from the start of the farming process where they see where the produce is grown or reared, consider different produce that comes from a farm, prepare a product, design the packaging, and end the day with a final finished product which is market ready.

This is a full day session £78 per group. Groups of 12 children, maximum 5 groups or 60 children.

Wildlife and Growing (Full Day) - Key stage 1 and 2

National Curriculum areas covered: citizenship/PSHE, maths, science and geography.

Aim: To establish in children an understanding and appreciation of the natural environment around them. The interdependence of all creatures and food chains.

Learning outcomes:

- To have a greater understanding of local wildlife. See first-hand where different animals live and what they eat.

- To look closely at different plants and understand their life cycle and what they need to grow.

- Learn how to plant a seedling, study a pollinator and make some good quality compost to feed their plants or in the Autumn, harvest vegetables from the garden

Description:

Children will take a tour of the whole site at Cogges Manor Farm and will become nature detectives – seeking out animal habitats, learning about plants and taking a hands-on role in planting their seedling and making their own compost. This is a fun, outdoor session which can be tailored to the different seasons of the year.

Please note: This is designed to be a full day session, but there is flexibility and we are happy to try and work around your timings if required.

The cost of the programme is £78. Groups of 12 children, maximum 5 groups or 60 children.

Christmas through the Ages (Seasonal availability only) (Full Day or Half Day) - Early Years Foundation Stage through to Key Stage 2

National Curriculum areas covered: citizenship, art, maths, science, history, PSHE/citizenship and literacy.

Aim: To take children on a magical journey of traditions of Christmas from past to present.

Learning outcomes:

- Create a Medieval decoration

- Create gingerbread

- Create a Victorian Christmas Cracker and joke

- Create links for a Make do and Mend Paperchain

- Find the naughty elves and spell the Christmas word

- Relate historical traditions to their own

Description:

This is an indoor activity primarily, where the children will be transported back in time and learn how Christmas was celebrated. Covering traditions that date back to the pagan winter solstice, Tudor Christmases, Victorian inventions and the World War ideals of ‘make do and mend’, this is a hands on Christmas adventure. Including a special Christmas puppet surprise!

The cost of the programme is £78 per group for a full day session and £52 per group for a half-day session.

Groups of 12 children, maximum 5 groups or 60 children.

Jack and the Bean Stalk (Half Day) **-**Early Years Foundation Stage through to Key Stage 1

National Curriculum areas covered: literacy, science, mathematics and citizenship/PSHE.

Aim: To engage younger children in the exploration of the story of Jack and the Bean stalk.

Learning outcomes:

- Learn about and identify different eggs

- Create giant footstep shaped biscuits

- Make a bed to sleep in

- Understand what a seed needs to grow

- Understand where milk comes from and why farmers keep cows

Description:

Based on the story of Jack and the Bean Stalk, children look at growing from a seed, making a bed, finding some eggs, creating baked impressions of the giant’s footprints and milking the model cow. This is a lively and interactive session where all children are involved. Including a special puppet surprise at the end!

This is a half-day session and costs £52 per group. Groups of 12 children, maximum 6 groups or 60 children.

Stick Day (Half Day) -   
Early Years Foundation Stage through to Key Stage 1

National Curriculum areas: literacy, maths, PSHE/citizenship, science and art.

Aim: To give younger children confidence in creativity. To look at specific books such as ‘Stanley’s Stick’ and ‘Stickman’ and to engage with them at a deeper level.

Learning outcomes:

- Creating a stick creature

- Searching for hidden stick characters and spelling out a word

- Working together to create a stick shelter

- Creating breadsticks, learning sticks come in many forms

- Measuring with sticks

Description:

Immersing themselves in the idea that sticks can be anything, either focusing on Stanley’s Stick or Stickman (usually time of year dependent). Children will create shelters with sticks, learn about different sticks and create breadsticks to take home. They will hunt hidden stick characters create their own and have fun with sticks. This is a creative session encourage children to have fun outdoors. Including a special puppet surprise at the end!

This is a half-day session and costs £52 per group. Groups of 12 children, maximum 6 groups or 60 children.

Old MacDonald – Story and Rhyme (Half Day)

Early Years Foundation Stage through to Key Stage 1

National Curriculum areas covered: literacy (including phonics), maths science, geography and history.

Aim: To give younger children a fun and interactive tour of the farm. Learning through stories and rhymes about the different animals and the different aspects of farming.

Learning outcomes:

- To identify and learn about the different animals at Cogges Manor Farm.

- To get a first-hand experience of a farm/agricultural environment.

- To enhance a love of reading and language through stories and rhymes associated with the animals on the farm with a focus on Old MacDonald had a Farm.

Description:

Children take a tour of the whole of the site at Cogges Manor farm and are introduced to and learn about the different animals. They take part in stories, songs and rhymes associated with the animals and their journey is tied together through Old MacDonald had a farm. This is a fun and stimulating session and brings a host of key learning areas to life. Including a special puppet surprise at the end!

This is a half-day session and costs £52 per group. Groups of 12 children, maximum 5 groups or 60 children.

Little Red Hen and Farmyard Friends (Half Day)

Early Years Foundation Stage through to Key Stage 1

National Curriculum areas covered: literacy (including phonics), science, mathematics and history, citizenship/PSHE.

Aim: To give younger children an understanding of where food comes from and how it is made.

Learning outcomes:

- To experience and interact first hand with the whole process from seed through to a baked loaf of bread.

- To appreciate and participate in all the stages of food production from holding the seed, seeing where it is planted, grinding flour and baking bread.

Description:

Based on the story of Little Red Hen, children look at growing from a seed, grinding flour and baking bread. This is a lively and interactive session where all children are involved. Including a special puppet surprise at the end!

This is a half-day session and costs £52 per group. Groups of 12 children, maximum 5 groups or 60 children.

General Information

Cogges offers a hands-on experience for all ages and abilities. All visits return to school with something besides a memorable experience, be that baking, seeds, oven-baked crisps, Christmas crackers or decorations. The sessions provide huge scope for follow up work back in the classroom.

The education programme is open all year, although the site is closed to the public from November until the end of March. There is a large free car park within a short, safe walk of the entrance to the site. Cogges is an enclosed site. Half Day activities can be made longer by a visit to Cogges grounds and adventure playground, supervised by school staff. All half day visits are welcome to stay on site for lunch. There is a shop and café onsite open March to November only.  
  
During the open season the grounds are open to the public from 10am.

Risk assessments and the Trust’s Child Protection Policy are available upon request.

Booking

If you would like to book a session or arrange a free pre-visit please contact the   
Learning & Community Engagement Manager, Laura Dean   
Tel: 01993 772602 | Email [learning@cogges.org.uk](mailto:learning@cogges.org.uk).

On booking you will receive confirmation and relevant pre-visit advice.