



Fernbrook Farms

Spring Homeschool Semester 2010

Ages 6 – 11 Years Old



The Need for Seeds

April 20, 21, 22

In this introductory class, we'll plant seeds, literally and metaphorically. Each child will plant their own seeds for germination in the greenhouse, where they'll be taken care of until the middle of May. Then they can be taken home and transplanted. Students will learn about the growing potential of a seed and the conditions necessary for it to prosper. This class will look at seeds from various plants, either used for food by humans or found in the forest. This course is also geared toward the fundamentals of farming.

World Fibers

April 27, 28, 29

Students at Fernbrook have been able to focus on wool in many Fernbrook fiber classes because we have the sheep herd as a resource, but this class is going to go further and explore the many types of fibers in the world; plant, animal and man-made. Students will be able to use their senses to identify types of fibers and learn stories about how fibers have been used by different cultures throughout history. Cottons, silks and BioFibers, OH MY!

Spring Wildflowers

May 4, 5, 6

Daisies and dandelions, violets and trillium! Students will explore Fernbrook fields, forests and wetlands searching for the wonderful array of spring wildflowers growing. They will learn how to identify common species by specific characteristics and with field guides and we will note what type of habitats each flower prefers. Your budding botanists will return home with new knowledge of flower anatomy and classification after this fun-filled class.

Garden Planting

May 11, 12, 13

During this class, we'll plan out our Homeschool garden and begin planting. Students will be able to transplant seedlings from the greenhouse and sow other seeds directly into the ground. We'll discuss companion planting and traditional methods of vegetable gardening. We'll also look at compost and soil composition while we determine what we need to do to maintain healthy, nutrient rich soil.

Swamp Tromp

May 18, 19, 20

Why are swamps so mysterious? What kinds of creatures really live below the surface of a swamp? Together we'll look at the hummocks and hallows to find plants and animals which call the Fernbrook swamp their home. We'll study the life-cycle of a swamp, the hydroperiod and how this swamp is important to Fernbrook ecology.

Spring Nutrition

May 25, 26, 27

This enticing class will be all about "food, glorious food"! We'll learn about what nutrients our bodies need and which foods supply them. Students will get to harvest and prepare some of the garden crops for healthy snacks. The class will also look back at previous classes of the semester and revisit and connect what we learned about different types of plants, where they grow, and what they provide to humans and other creatures.

Field Trip to Durr Farms: A Sea of Flowers

June 1, 2, 3

The largest flower farmer in New Jersey is taking us on an exclusive tour of his farm! We'll learn about Mr. Durr's annuals and perennials, as well as a little about some of his other little helpers (the bees) on the farm. Students are sure to gain an understanding of plant reproduction and growth while they marvel at the sea of flowers.

Creek Sneak

June 8, 9, 10

Springtime brings new life to the creek on Fernbrook Farm. A multitude of wildlife species depend on the water, debris, mud, and flow pattern of the creek for living. The class will have the opportunity to walk DOWN THE CREEKBED and find what's living there. We'll be keeping eyes peeled for everything from big mammals to small macro-invertebrates and learning how the whole community is connected. Don't worry parents, the creek is very shallow (ankle deep) so kids will be safe but we can't promise they'll be clean so here's your fair warning: STUDENTS WILL BE DIRTY!

**Fernbrook Farms Education Center
Homeschool Spring Semester 2010**

Please Print or Type

(Please note: We need a new registration form for your child(ren) each semester. Thank you!)

Name of Child(children)		Age	Date of Birth	Male	Female
Address		City		State	
Zip Code		Grade entering in the fall			
Mother's Name		Father's Name			
Home Phone#	Work#	Home Phone#	Work#		
Email		Email			
Cell/Pager#		Cell/Pager#			
Employer		Employer			

Confidential Medical Information & Required Emergency Information

- Please indicate information about the registrant(s) **regarding medications, allergies, physical disabilities or restrictions that the instructors should know about. Attach pages if necessary.**

My Child's physician's name and phone# is _____

My Child's medical insurance carrier is _____ Policy# _____

In case of an emergency, I give my permission to have _____ (child/children) receive first aid and be transported to the nearest hospital by professional, emergency personnel. I understand I will be financially responsible for the cost of such treatment.

YES

NO Parent/Guardian _____ Date signed _____

I give Fernbrook Farms Education Center permission to use any photographs or video footage of my child(ren) for any promotional or other legitimate reason. YES NO Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

Schedule of Classes

*(Classes will be held for **ages 6-8 and 9-11** on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 1:30-3:30pm & Thursdays from 9:30-11:30am.)*

o Please circle **TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY or THURSDAY** indicating which day you will be attending class.

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Garden Planting	May 11, 12, 13
Swamp Tromp	May 18, 19, 20
Spring Nutrition	May 25, 26, 27
Field Trip: Durr Farms	June 1, 2, 3
Creek Sneak	June 8, 9, 10

o How did you hear about our homeschool programs? _____

Registration Fee - \$80 for entire semester

- o **We are asking for registrations for the entire eight-week semester. If after the first day you are dissatisfied, you may receive a \$70 refund. If you have any questions regarding this please contact us at (609) 298-4028.**

o MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
Fernbrook Farms Environmental Education Center

MAIL APPLICATION TO:
Fernbrook Farms
P.O. BOX 228
Bordentown, NJ 08505