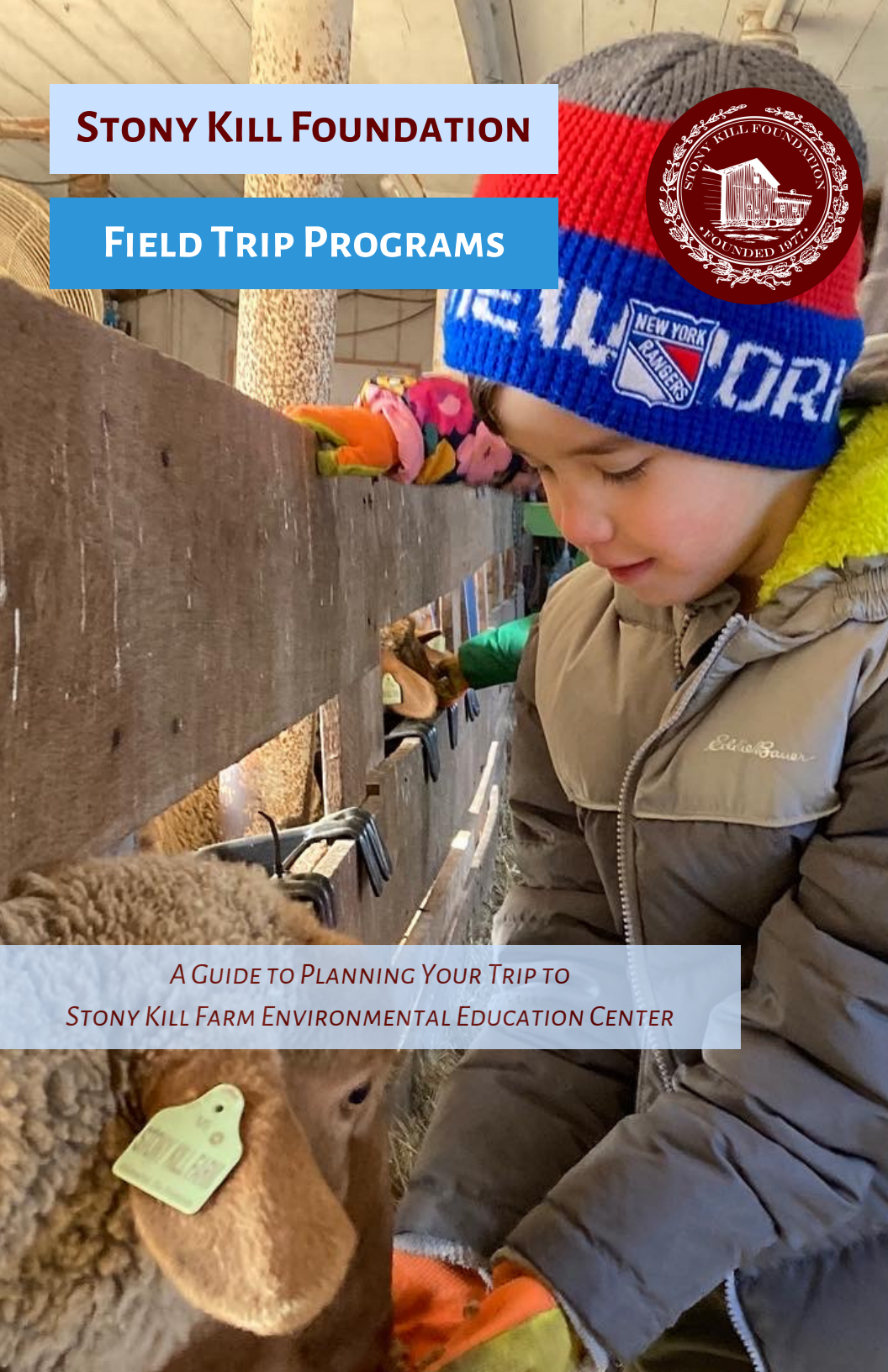




STONY KILL FOUNDATION

FIELD TRIP PROGRAMS



*A GUIDE TO PLANNING YOUR TRIP TO
STONY KILL FARM ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER*

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TIME FRAMES & CAPACITIES

Stony Kill Foundation's mission is to connect the public to nature, sustainable farming and local history. Our hands-on programs provide environmental education through the lens of agriculture. Stony Kill offers field trips of all shapes and sizes to accommodate each group individually.

Half Day Field Trip

2 hour time window

A half day field trip includes **two lessons**, and can accommodate **up to 32 students*** per day scheduled.

Extended Half Day Field Trip

3 hour time window, including an optional 25-minute lunch

An extended half day field trip includes **three lessons**, and can accommodate **up to 48 students*** per day scheduled.

Full Day Field Trip

4 hour time window, including a 25-minute lunch

A full day field trip includes **four lessons**, and can accommodate **up to 64 students*** per day scheduled.

Want to bring more students to Stony Kill?

We have options!

We are more than happy to plan multiple trips for your students. Please reach out to Stony Kill Program Director Debbie Muesser to inquire about available dates to schedule your school.

Only a few students over our limit? We offer small expansion packages to each trip style! See more details on **page 5**.

LESSON DESCRIPTIONS

Stony Kill Foundation has a wide range of lessons to share hands-on natural and agricultural experiences with your students. Lessons are taught by our experienced and knowledgeable educators and last 45 minutes.



Barn and Livestock Tour (*recommended for all ages*)

Stony Kill is a working farm where students will visit with our resident livestock, including our beef and dairy cattle, sheep, chickens, and turkeys. The 1860's barn was constructed to be open to the southeast protecting the animals from the cold north wind while maximizing the energy of the winters' sun. In some ways, the barn is an example of energy efficient technology of its era. Students will learn about our livestock breeds, where our food comes from, and enjoy hands-on interaction with our animals.

From a Sheep (*recommended for Pre-K to Kindergarten*)

Did you know our Tunis flock originated from the Northern Coast of Africa? We'll learn all about our unique ewes and all the important products that come from them. Each year, our sheep are sheared and we are left with bags of wool that need to be cleaned and brushed. We'll learn how to wash our wool, take a peek at the steps of processing wool, and get to make our own breed of sheep, complete with genuine Stony Kill wool!

Plant Parts & Photosynthesis (*recommended for Pre-K to Kindergarten*)

Learn about all the elements that plants need to grow and how our greenhouse helps this process. We'll explore the different part of our edible plants and play a game to see who can name all the important plant parts! Then we'll enjoy a plant parts salad that everyone will help to make.

Pond Ecology (*recommended for 1st - 7th grade*)

Students will learn about the complex ecosystem of a pond and participate in citizen science on the farm! Through collection of macroinvertebrates and an investigation of the contents of the pond, students will leave with an understanding of how everything in a pond works together to sustain the ecosystem as we know it.



Watershed & Water Connections (*recommended for 1st - 7th grade*)

Students will learn about where their water comes from and the New York State watershed. Using our Hudson Valley watershed model, we'll explore the reservoirs and aqueducts that provide the 8.6 million residents in NYC with freshwater. Students will create their own watershed model, investigate the involvement of farming in watersheds, and participate in a hands-on activity.

Nature's Recyclers (*recommended for 2nd - 7th grade*)

This hands-on activity will allow students to dig into a compost bin to discover a diverse team of decomposers that work together as nature's premier recyclers. Students will learn the do's and don'ts of composting and make a mini composter using natural materials for a take-home classroom experiment. Students will also make and taste fresh fruit juice and use the scraps in their composter.



Outdoor Senses (*recommended for 2nd - 7th grade*)

Using all five senses, students will explore nature through the lens of sight, sound, smell, touch, and taste. Students will participate in a venture on our sensory trail, learn about different senses present in wildlife, and leave with an increased appreciation of the wonder that surrounds us every day.

Cheese Making (*recommended for 4th - 7th grades*)

When our dairy cow is producing milk, students will be able to make fresh mozzarella cheese learning the techniques and chemistry of how cheeses are produced and how a grass becomes milk through the complex stomach of a ruminant.

****Availability is dependent on our cows, please reach out to inquire about this module.**

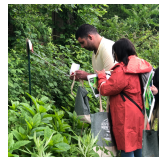
LESSON DESCRIPTIONS

Dirty Water *(recommended for 4th - 7th grades)*

Stony Kill Farm is part of the Hudson River watershed and proper farming techniques are instrumental in keeping our watershed clean. Students will learn about various types of erosion, integrated pest management and waste management and how farming practices can protect and enhance the environment. They will participate in a hands-on activity to highlight various types of water pollution.

Orienteering *(recommended for 4th - 7th grades)*

Students will work on building their map literacy skills! After starting the class by learning about types of maps, symbols, and navigation techniques, students will team up to try their hand at navigating the farmstead in search of points around the property using their new-found skills.



Travellin' Seeds *(recommended for 4th - 7th grades)*

Seeds are one of the best examples of how nature can adapt to it's surroundings! Using seeds found in the Hudson Valley, students will learn about seed dispersal, biotic and abiotic methods, engage in a hands-on experiment to determine how each plant spreads their seeds, and play a fun game to tie it all together.

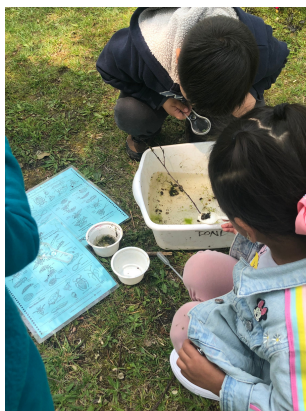
Honeybees & Pollinators *(recommended for all ages)*

Did you know that one in every three bites we eat is the result of insect pollination? Honey bees, though non-native to North America, are not only used to pollinate crops, but produce their own agricultural product, honey, gathered from the nectar at Stony Kill Farm. Students will learn the inner workings of the hive by observing the bees in action in our observation hive and will taste different varieties of honey.



Johnnycakes & Corn *(recommended for all ages)*

Corn was a staple of any kitchen when Stony Kill Farm was first built in the 1700s, and still is in many ways, today. This lesson fosters an appreciation for the connection between what is grown and produced on farms and how the nutritional value of our crops has changed over the centuries. Students will learn about corn as a viable crop on farms, bioplastics in our products today, and participate in making handmade butter and journey cakes, or "Johnnycakes," from hand ground cornmeal.



2025-26 FIELD TRIP RATES

Pricing is based on the number of students and number of modules proposed for a trip.
Payment is due on or before the date of your trip.

Half Day Field Trip

Up to 16 students: \$240

17 to 32 students: \$480

Half Day Expansion (Up to 40 students): \$580

Extended Half Day Field Trip

Up to 16 students: \$290

17 to 32 students: \$530

32 to 48 students: \$720

Extended Half Day Expansion (Up to 60 students): \$894

Full Day Field Trip

Up to 16 students: \$340

17 to 32 students: \$580

32 to 48 students: \$770

48 to 64 students: \$960

Full Day Expansion (Up to 80 students): \$1,200

Please note: the option to expand the capacity of your trip will result in larger group sizes in each lesson. We are unable to accommodate any groups larger than what we offer in our outlined expansions.

Expansions are unavailable for preschool and kindergarten groups.

**See the next page to explore grant options to aid in funding your trip
to Stony Kill Farm.**

AVAILABLE GRANTS & FINANCIAL AID

Field trips with Stony Kill Foundation are eligible for a number of grants to aid in any financial barriers that may exist. Highlighted below are a few available options.

Dutchess BOCES

Dutchess BOCES offers two grants that can be applied to Stony Kill Foundation field trips. If you are interested in one of these grants, please cite this in your Field Trip Inquiry submission, and our Program Director will supply necessary contract information to apply for this grant. For more information, visit <https://dcboces.org/artsineducation/faq>.

Putnam | Northern Westchester BOCES

PNW BOCES offers a grant to support the expansion of education through many avenues, including field trips. This grant is a Co-Serve, so the funding must be utilized throughout multiple school districts. For more information, visit https://pnwboces.org/Curriculum-Center/Environmental/State_Aid.

Orange-Ulster BOCES

Orange-Ulster BOCES offers support in assisting local school districts with funding to access to environmental education, including field trips to applicable destinations. For more information, visit <https://ouboces.org/instructional-support/outdoor-environmental-education>.

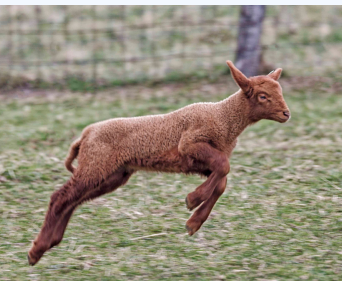
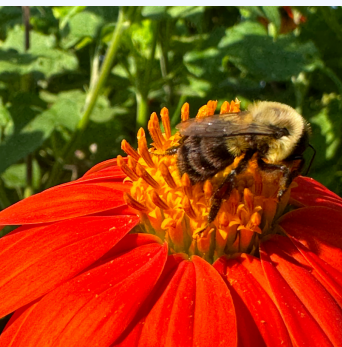
Connect Kids

This is a reimbursement transportation grant funded through the Environmental Protection Fund and administered by The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis in the order they are received, while funding is available. For more information, visit <https://parks.ny.gov/environment/connect-kids/grant-program.aspx>.

Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley

Through a grant provided by the Dyson Foundation, Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley is offering grant funding to schools in Dutchess and Ulster counties as financial aid for field trip costs. There are specific qualifiers and timelines that apply to the applications for this grant. For more information, visit <https://communityfoundationshv.org/grants/field-trip-grants/>.

The above grants and financial aid opportunities are among the most commonly used to fund Stony Kill Foundation field trips.



WE'LL SEE YOU ON THE FARM!

