

GROUP DETAILS

IN AN EMERGENCY CALL:

Leader:	Group Phone:
Participants:	

ACTIVITY DETAILS

Purpose of Activity:	Date:
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Benefit of Activity: Builds connections between participants and the source of their food. | Develops responsibility and work ethic through farm tasks. | Encourages hands-on learning through farming activities. | Enhances understanding of agricultural practices and food production. | Fosters appreciation for farm animals and their roles. | Promotes environmental awareness and sustainability education.

HAZARDS

HAZARD	RISK	RISK BENEFIT	MEASURE	RISK TO	RISK LEVEL
Noise from machinery	Hearing loss, startle response, distraction leading to accidents	Gaining insight into machinery operations while maintaining safety.	Avoid proximity to operating machinery. Provide ear protection if necessary and ensure participants understand the importance of staying clear of machinery areas. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Med After Measure: Med
Participants with additional needs	Lack of support, inadequate supervision, medical emergencies	Ensures inclusivity and promotes participation for all children, regardless of their needs.	Identify any participants with additional physical, emotional, or medical needs in advance. Ensure tailored support, including appropriate supervision, accessibility adjustments, and clear communication of safety measures. (ALL)	Participants with additional needs	Before Measure: Med After Measure: Med

HAZARD	RISK	RISK BENEFIT	MEASURE	RISK TO	RISK LEVEL
Safeguarding	Inappropriate behavior, abuse, neglect	Ensures the safety and well-being of vulnerable participants during the visit.	Ensure all staff and volunteers are trained in safeguarding, and maintain appropriate adult-to-child ratios. Conduct background checks on supervisors and keep clear boundaries between participants and any unrelated adults. Regular check-ins during the visit are crucial. (ALL)	Participants, vulnerable youth	Before Measure: Med After Measure: Med
Slips, trips, and falls	Falling, fractures, sprains	Navigating farm environments safely.	Ensure suitable footwear is worn, mark uneven surfaces, and instruct participants on safe movement in wet or rough terrain. Provide close supervision to guide participants on designated paths and avoid hazardous areas. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Med After Measure: Med
Allergic reaction to hay or straw	Respiratory issues, skin irritation, anaphylaxis	Raising awareness of personal health risks and allergen management.	Identify participants with hay allergies, avoid direct exposure to hay, and provide allergy medications or first aid if necessary. Supervise closely in these areas. (ALL)	Participants with hay allergies	Before Measure: Low After Measure: Low
Allergic reactions to animals or pollen	Anaphylaxis, respiratory issues, skin reactions	Learning to manage personal health while participating in outdoor activities.	Identify any known allergies before the visit and ensure participants avoid contact with allergens. Have allergy medications and first aid supplies on hand. (ALL)	Participants with allergies	Before Measure: Med After Measure: Low
Animal bites or kicks	Physical injuries, infection	Understanding animal behavior while fostering respect.	Supervise interactions with animals, maintaining safe distances and clear instructions. Only allow touching under guidance by farm personnel to prevent incidents. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Med After Measure: Low
Animal waste contamination	Infection, disease transmission, skin irritation	Reinforces good hygiene practices in environments with livestock.	Provide accessible handwashing stations and educate participants on avoiding contact with animal feces. Supervise closely in areas where animals roam freely. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Med After Measure: Low

HAZARD	RISK	RISK BENEFIT	MEASURE	RISK TO	RISK LEVEL
Burns from hot surfaces or equipment	Thermal burns, scalds, injuries	Promoting safety and awareness around farm equipment.	Supervise participants closely around any hot equipment or surfaces, marking hazardous areas clearly. Instruct participants to stay at a safe distance from such risks. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Med After Measure: Low
Chemical poisoning risks	Toxic exposure, respiratory issues, skin burns	Raising awareness of chemical safety and environmental health on farms.	Ensure participants avoid areas where chemicals are stored or recently applied. Provide clear warnings about pesticide-treated fields and restrict access accordingly. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Med After Measure: Low
Cold stress or hypothermia	Hypothermia, frostbite, respiratory issues	Teaching participants to prepare for cold weather and understand the risks of exposure.	Encourage participants to dress warmly in layers, provide access to heated spaces or shelters, and monitor for signs of cold-related stress or hypothermia. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Low After Measure: Low
Contact with farm chemicals	Chemical poisoning, skin burns, respiratory issues	Understanding chemical management and safety on farms.	Restrict access to chemical storage areas, mark them clearly, and educate participants on chemical safety. Provide supervision to prevent accidental exposure. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Med After Measure: Low
Contact with manure or compost	Infection, skin irritation, disease transmission	Learning about composting while promoting hygiene in farm environments.	Ensure handwashing stations are available and educate participants to avoid direct contact with compost or manure piles. Provide supervision in such areas. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Med After Measure: Low
Crossing paths with moving farm vehicles	Vehicle collisions, injuries, fatalities	Learning road safety and vehicle awareness in working farm environments.	Clearly mark areas where vehicles operate, and supervise participants to stay clear of these paths. Educate them on the dangers of crossing near moving vehicles. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: High After Measure: Low
Dehydration from farm activities	Heatstroke, dizziness, fainting	Promotes the importance of hydration during outdoor physical activities.	Ensure water is available throughout the visit and remind participants to stay hydrated, particularly during strenuous activities or in hot weather. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Low After Measure: Low

HAZARD	RISK	RISK BENEFIT	MEASURE	RISK TO	RISK LEVEL
Electric fences	Electrocution, shock	Understanding the use of electric fences in livestock control.	Highlight electric fences with clear signage and ensure participants understand not to touch them. Supervise participants near fences, avoiding unnecessary contact. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Med After Measure: Low
Entrapment in confined spaces	Suffocation, panic, injury	Building awareness of confined space hazards while promoting safety.	Restrict access to enclosed areas like silos and storage bins, supervising participants at all times to prevent entry into dangerous confined spaces. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Med After Measure: Low
Exposure to hazardous plants	Skin irritation, allergic reactions, poisoning	Teaches plant identification and safe interaction with natural surroundings.	Identify and mark any hazardous plants like poison ivy. Brief participants on plant identification and instruct them to avoid contact with unfamiliar vegetation. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Med After Measure: Low
Extreme weather exposure	Heatstroke, hypothermia, dehydration	Teaches resilience and preparedness for diverse outdoor conditions.	Encourage participants to dress appropriately, monitor weather conditions, provide shaded or sheltered areas for rest, and ensure hydration to mitigate heat or cold effects. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: High After Measure: Low
Falling from heights	Serious injuries, fractures, concussions	Building awareness of height-related risks in outdoor settings.	Restrict climbing on farm structures like bale stacks, ladders, or fences. Supervise participants closely around potential fall hazards, and limit access to unsafe areas. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: High After Measure: Low
Fatigue from long walking distances	Exhaustion, dehydration, injury due to fatigue	Promotes awareness of physical limits and the importance of rest during outdoor activities.	Plan for frequent breaks and ensure access to shaded areas. Provide adequate hydration and encourage participants to rest as needed to prevent fatigue. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Med After Measure: Low
Fire risk	Burns, property damage, smoke inhalation	Understanding fire prevention and safety in outdoor and farm settings.	Prohibit open flames during the visit. Brief participants on fire safety and ensure they are aware of fire hazards in the surrounding environment. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: High After Measure: Low

HAZARD	RISK	RISK BENEFIT	MEASURE	RISK TO	RISK LEVEL
Food contamination	Foodborne illness, infection, gastrointestinal issues	Encouraging food safety and cleanliness in outdoor settings.	Ensure all participants wash hands before eating, provide clean eating areas, and store food in sanitary conditions. Educate on the importance of hygiene during meals. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Med After Measure: Low
Gate or door-related injuries	Pinching, crushing, tripping over gates/doors	Learning practical skills for interacting safely with farm infrastructure.	Supervise the use of gates and doors, demonstrating safe opening and closing methods. Ensure that participants do not operate any heavy or unfamiliar gates. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Med After Measure: Low
Getting lost	Separation from group, fear, injury while lost	Building situational awareness and learning to navigate large outdoor areas.	Provide clear maps or designated routes for participants, assign group leaders to maintain supervision, and use clear signage to mark meeting points and boundaries. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Med After Measure: Low
Inadequate clothing	Exposure to elements, injury from improper footwear	Keeps participants comfortable and safe during the visit, preventing discomfort or injury.	Inform participants of the need for appropriate clothing and footwear based on the weather and farm conditions (e.g., boots for muddy areas, raincoats for wet weather). Check for compliance before departure and provide extra items if necessary. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Med After Measure: Low
Inadequate footwear	Foot injuries, slips, falls	Encourages participants to take responsibility for their own safety by choosing suitable clothing.	Ensure participants are wearing sturdy, closed-toe shoes suitable for uneven farm terrain. Provide clear instructions about appropriate footwear prior to the visit. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Med After Measure: Low
Infection from animal contact	Zoonotic infections, illness, disease transmission	Learning hygiene and safety around animals.	Provide handwashing stations and mandate washing hands after touching animals. Brief participants on zoonoses risks and avoid unsupervised contact with animal waste or fluids. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Med After Measure: Low

HAZARD	RISK	RISK BENEFIT	MEASURE	RISK TO	RISK LEVEL
Loose animals causing injury	Kicks, bites, trampling	Teaching respect for animal behavior and safe interaction techniques.	Keep participants away from loose or unpredictable animals, ensuring animals are securely penned. Supervise interactions with animals and follow farm staff guidance. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: High After Measure: Low
Manual handling injuries	Strains, sprains, back injuries	Teaching safe body mechanics during physical tasks in a farm setting.	Prohibit heavy lifting by participants. Educate on proper lifting techniques for lighter objects, ensuring supervision during activities that involve any physical lifting. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Med After Measure: Low
Overexertion during physical tasks	Fatigue, muscle strains, dehydration	Encourages self-regulation and pacing in physical tasks.	Plan activities suited to participants' abilities, offering regular breaks and hydration. Monitor closely for signs of fatigue and adjust activities as necessary. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Low After Measure: Low
Poor group management	Group disorganization, accidents, loss of supervision	Improves participant understanding of the environment, enhancing safety and learning.	Provide a thorough safety briefing before the visit, outlining farm hazards and expectations. Split participants into small groups with assigned leaders, and ensure regular check-ins to monitor the group's well-being. Maintain clear communication channels. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: High After Measure: Low
Sharp objects	Lacerations, puncture wounds, infections	Teaching caution around sharp materials commonly found on farms.	Mark barbed wire, sharp tools, or sharp edges clearly and instruct participants to avoid them. Maintain close supervision, particularly in high-risk areas. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Med After Measure: Low
Stress or anxiety in new environments	Psychological distress, panic attacks, withdrawal	Helps participants develop coping strategies for unfamiliar or challenging environments.	Provide thorough pre-visit briefings and offer emotional support throughout the visit. Encourage participants to communicate if they feel overwhelmed or stressed. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Med After Measure: Low

HAZARD	RISK	RISK BENEFIT	MEASURE	RISK TO	RISK LEVEL
Strong farm odors	Respiratory irritation, nausea, headaches	Understanding how farm conditions can differ from other environments.	Brief participants in advance about the presence of strong odors, and offer breaks in fresh air if necessary. Ensure those with sensitivities are prepared. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Low After Measure: Low
Sunburn	Skin damage, dehydration, heatstroke	Teaching the importance of sun protection during outdoor activities.	Advise participants to apply sunscreen, wear hats, and stay in shaded areas during peak sunlight hours. Provide ample drinking water and monitor for signs of sunburn. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Med After Measure: Low
Tripping over farm equipment	Injuries from tripping, being hit by equipment	Encourages attentiveness and careful movement in working environments.	Clear walkways of loose tools, cables, and farm equipment. Brief participants on paying attention to their surroundings, and supervise paths to minimize tripping hazards. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Med After Measure: Low
Water-related accidents	Drowning, near-drowning, slipping near water	Learning about water safety while respecting natural water features.	Supervise participants near ponds, streams, or water troughs. Restrict access to deep or fast-flowing water and ensure life-saving equipment is available nearby. (ALL)	Participants	Before Measure: Med After Measure: Low
Unpredicted risks	Illness, injury, death		Ongoing dynamic risk assessment carried out by all staff. Any observed potential hazards should be notified to group leader and immediate action taken if required. (ALL)	All	N/A

NOTES

Extra notes & activity evaluation:

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Completed by

Reviewed/Approved by

Risk Assessment Date

Review Required Date