



visiting students program



The rhythms of nature and farm life take children beyond the classroom. Awakening to the environment, children rediscover the joy of learning and working together.

The Place-Based Learning Center at Hawthorne Valley Farm has been offering school classes a unique, week-long farm educational experience outside the walls of the classroom through its Visiting Students Program since 1972. Children experience a hands-on learning environment that emphasizes cooperation, active participation, and critical thinking.

OUR SEASONAL OFFERINGS FOR GRADES 3-12 INCLUDE:
FARMING | ANIMAL CARE | FARM-TO-TABLE COOKING CLASSES | GARDENING
COW HERDING | SHEEP AND WOOL LESSONS | DAIRY LESSONS | HORSEBACK RIDING

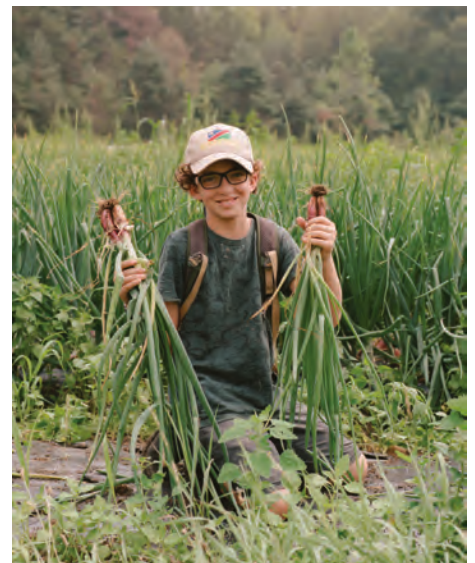


City children, now more than ever, need the change of pace, fresh air, and contact with nature that the Hawthorne Valley Farm provides. After a week of wholesome activities, they don't want to leave the farm and return to urban life transformed, relaxed, breathing more deeply. GIANNINA ZLATAR, A CLASS TEACHER AT THE RUDOLF STEINER SCHOOL OF NYC



Each year, over 600 children visit Hawthorne Valley Farm and stay in our Main House, and in our cabins in the forest. Our staff teach and guide the children by fostering the goals of Waldorf education begun by Rudolf Steiner.

Over the course of their five-day stay, younger students (Grades 3 through 5) have the opportunity to bake bread, clean the barn, work in the garden, ride horses, help prepare meals for the group and much more. Activities for older students (Grades 6 through 12) change slightly depending on the age of the group. Activities may include botany walks, geological explorations, caving, and more.



Living with classmates and friends enhances all of the experiences on the farm. Relationships blossom, and many problems are solved through shared activities and the demands of group projects. Serving each other in the dining hall, helping with dishes, and working side by side in the barn or garden fosters a cooperative spirit among the students as they learn the true ecology of living relationships.

TO LEARN MORE, EMAIL VSP@HAWTHORNEVALLEY.ORG