

Farmer John's Pumpkin Farm

P.O. Box 218

Half Moon Bay, CA 94019

BUS: 650-726-4980

FAX: 650-726-2991

E-mail: Eda@farmerjohnspumpkins.com

www.farmerjohnspumpkins.com

Pumpkin Season 2011

Dear Principal and Teachers:

I'd like to make you aware of an educational, as well as entertaining, hands-on field trip opportunity for classes of children or various teams, clubs, or groups of students at your school.

My husband, Farmer John, and I have been involved with educating children about agriculture for over 40 years. We run a full time vegetable farm as well as our seasonal pumpkin farm in Half Moon Bay. Both of us have been involved in agricultural leadership on the local and national scale, so we can offer students not only a fun afternoon at the pumpkin farm, but also critical information about the importance of agriculture and its viability both now and in the future. Our farm will provide your students with many fun opportunities without the amusement park venue.

Our family pumpkin farm opens mid September and runs through the end of October. If you are interested in coordinating a field trip for your students, please contact me, Eda Muller at 650-726-4980. As you will see from our flyer, we charge \$8.00 per student for this exciting and fun educational field trip. We also sell and deliver decorative pumpkins, cornstalks and hay bales for the school or school sponsored events.

Farmer John's Pumpkin Farm is located on Hwy 1 just north of Half Moon Bay off Highway 92. The farm is open weekdays and weekends and can accommodate groups of various sizes. We grow over 60 different varieties of pumpkins, have an authentic Native American TiPi, vegetables, herbs and flowers grown on site, and pumpkins still in the field, representing pumpkins in their natural environment.

Good luck with the start of the new school year. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Eda Muller

Here is a tentative schedule some teachers have found helpful. Times are only approximations and adjust to your arrival & departure times. You may want only one group. We are flexible!

9:30 Arrival Greeting and Logistics

9:45 Group Photo

9:50-10:15 Group 1 takes hay ride and gets pumpkins, Group 2 has Snack, Group 3 has tour

10:20-10:45 Switch Group 1 has Snack, Group 2 has tour and Group 3 has hay ride and gets pumpkins.

10:50-11:15 Switch Group 1 has tour, Group 2 has hay ride and gets pumpkins, Group 3 has snack

11:20 Get things ready to depart and departure

If there are four groups; each group will have a session of guided exploration

You may want to make sure you bring the following to make the day run a little easier: **name tag** with student's name, **felt tip markers** to write the child's name on the bottom of the pumpkins, **hand wipes** or **paper towels**, drinking **water** is preferred over bringing juice boxes as they attract the **bees**, your **garbage bags**, and of course, a **camera**.

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We have found it helpful to specify Guidelines for Success to make your visit more enjoyable. We hope that these basic principles will serve to show how much we care about our farm and the enjoyment and the safety of all our visitors.

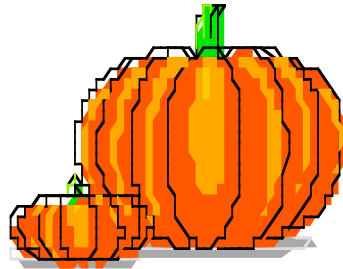
As a side note: if your school was here in years past, and you are coming again this year, this means you were wonderful guests of ours. Just think of these as helpful reminders. ☺

Guidelines for all Attendees

- We ask all chaperones **NOT TO USE THEIR CELLPHONES DURING THE FIELD TRIP.** Their purpose is to watch the children and to enjoy and learn from the field trip for further discussion with their children later on. We strongly encourage no cell phone usage while chaperoning. Thank you for this courtesy. We do not want to talk over cell phone conversations.
- We grow our pumpkins with care for you, our visitors and guests. We do not want jumping on or over pumpkins, standing on pumpkins or throwing or rolling pumpkins or kicking them. You might hit someone with a pumpkin and hurt them. The pumpkins are not a ball, they will not bounce, they just will crack and break. Hopefully you would not do this in the grocery store. Please do not do it here.
- Please, no climbing, pulling, jumping on or kicking the **Ti Pi**. We have an authentic Native American Ti Pi. We consider it a sacred place and want it treated with respect. You can go in the Ti Pi, talk in whispers in it, sit and listen in it. Please do not kick it or jump on it or throw trash in it. Thank you.
- Please no climbing through, pulling on or tearing the **corn stalks**. They can be sharp and hurt the children. There are areas where the children may run through the corn. The corn is an area in which to have fun.
- Also, please do not push or shove on the **hay pyramid**. Absolutely no jumping from the hay pyramid. This behavior can be dangerous. We do not want anyone to get hurt.
- Please, no standing during the hayride. Please remain seated.
- There is to be no climbing on the **tractor Farmer John drives** at any time. At all. You all may sit on the antique John Deer Tractor in the main part of the farm and enjoy this as well as take photos there, but no playing on the tractor that runs the hayride.
- We ask that you not wander onto **neighboring property** that is not part of our pumpkin farm.
- **Please do not pick up the pumpkins by their stems.** Some stems have small “needle like” coverings that will pinch your hand. Also the stems can and do break.
- Please make sure there is an **adult with the children** when they use the **bathroom facilities**. We do not want the children alone in the port a potties. Thank you for this.
- Please do not take pumpkins without permission or payment. We are happy for adult guests to purchase any pumpkins they would like.
- Of course we ask that there be no littering. Please be sure to clean up **all trash and food** items that belong to your group. We know you will help us keep our farm clean. **WE are a green facility and follow the trash practice of pack out what you bring in. Thank you.**

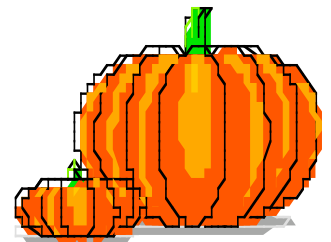
We sincerely want you to have a fun, safe visit; a great, lasting childhood memory and wonderful learning experience of a true, working farm. We were children, we have children & grandchildren, and we love children to be able to run and make noise and have fun. We just want them to be safe and respectful as well. By following these guidelines we will all be just as happy at the end of your visit, as when you arrived at our farm.

Thank you,
Farmer John and Miss Eda



FARMER JOHN'S PUMPKIN FARM EXPERIENCE

OVER 50 VARIETIES OF PUMPKINS ALL GROWN ON THE FARM



RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

Student Packages Include:

**Informational Visit and Teaching Session
Hayride, Medium-Sized Pumpkin,
Authentic Native American Tipi on Site,
Antique John Deere Tractor,
Atlantic Giant Pumpkins Grown Here,
Scarecrows, Picnic Area, Hay Pyramid,
and Pumpkin Information Teacher Handout.**

\$8.00 per student

(first increase in 5 years)

Visit us at: www.farmerjohnspumpkins.com

(850 Cabrillo Highway North, Half Moon Bay)

Directions:

FROM HWY 92: take Hwy 1 NORTH about 1 mile. Farm is on the left (ocean side)

immediately after lanes merge into one.

FROM SF: Hwy 1 So, 2 miles past City Limit Sign, West (Right) onto Kehoe

And a sharp South (Left) on Frontage Road (So. Cabrillo Hwy).

Call 650-726-4980 for information, or e-mail Eda@FarmerJohnsPumpkins.com

**Lots of room to roam, have fun,
see and learn about: pumpkins, vegetables, and flowers
growing in their environment!**