



Welcome to Shuh Orchards! We are a family owned and operated apple orchard in Elmira growing 50 acres of Honey Crisp, Gala and Ambrosia apples. We're excited you're interested in coming to the orchard for a field trip. We're also excited to partner with educators and teach students about where their food comes from in a fun and engaging way.

Overview:

Shuh Orchards field trips will be 1.5 hours, can accommodate up to 60 students at one time and centre around 3 activities:

1. Wagon Ride/Orchard Tour (30 minutes - **Shuh Orchards led**):

- a. Fits approximately 36 people on 6 carts, aligning well with parent to student ratio.
- b. The ride will be 20 minutes (10 minutes for loading and unloading) and will cover a winding path through the orchard, the irrigation pond, and the forest. This is a great opportunity to see the whole property.
- c. **Learning/Engagement Opportunity:**
  - i. Students will receive a laminated hand out which will act as a scavenger hunt for things to spot at the orchard. Volunteers will receive a script corresponding to the card. The script will contain educational information on the orchard and our growing process and can be used throughout the ride. Scripts will be customized to age range and curriculum.

2. Petting Zoos (30 minutes - **teacher/volunteer led**):

- a. Our petting zoos have 4 goats, 4 sheep, 2 alpacas, and 2 tiny horses.
- b. Each pen is accessible for students to feed the animals safely (teacher/volunteer supervised) through the fence (no full entry into the pen) and we will provide the grain to use as feed. The animals are friendly and want to be fed.
- c. We will provide paper cups of grain for each child to get one cup of grain. Cups can be handed out by parent volunteers.
- d. **Learning/Engagement Opportunity:**
  - i. Students will be given a laminated sheet to mark down specifics about a certain animal (a picture, name of animal type, how long they live, what they eat, what kind of shelter they need, what country they come from originally, something special about this animal, and some information about their babies).
  - ii. Laminated sheets will be age specific - either writing or circling objects based on grade level.



3. Kinesthetic Activity/Free Time (30 minutes and age dependent):

- a. JK/SK: free time for playground and farm activities (corn hole, life size connect 4, gravity wagon basketball, old tractors to sit on) can be used during this time. Students can also revisit the nearby petting zoo or explore the nearby rows of trees with parent supervision.
- b. Grade 1: What does an apple tree need to grow?
  - i. **Curriculum: Understanding Life/Growing Systems**
  - ii. Students will be split up into smaller groups and will be given a number of cards. The cards will either be an item that that tree needs to grow (e.g. water, sunlight, pruning) or an item that the tree does not need to grow (e.g. fast food, video games)
  - iii. The goal of the game is to identify the “need to grow” vs. the “doesn’t need to grow”.
- c. Grade 2: “Apple Life Cycle”
  - i. **Curriculum: Understanding Life/Growing Systems**
  - ii. Students will be split up into smaller groups. Each group is given a set of cards with each card showing a step in the apple growth cycle:  
Seed → Sprout → Tree → Blossom → Apple → Back to Seed
  - iii. This can be a competitive game or non-competitive.
- d. Grade 3: How an Apple Tree Works
  - i. **Curriculum: Growth and Changes in Plants**
  - ii. Short lesson on the different parts of the tree (roots, trunk, leaves, apple)
  - iii. Each student will have a sketchpad where they will go to a real tree throughout the orchard to sketch each part of the tree and write one sentence about what that part of the tree does.
- e. Grade 4: The Orchard Ecosystem:
  - i. **Curriculum: Habitats and Communities**
  - ii. Short lesson on the things that live in the orchard - i.e. what lives at the orchard in addition to the apple trees?
  - iii. Students will explore the orchard in pairs and mark down items they find and identify them as either:
    1. Producers: apple trees, grass, weeds
    2. Consumers: People, birds, insects
    3. Decomposers: fungi, insects, fallen apples rotting
    4. Signs of change: trampled grass, dropped apples, cut branches



f. Grade 5: Changing Apples

- i. **Curriculum: Properties and Changes in Matter**
- ii. 3 stations will be set up: fresh apples, sliced open brown apples, and dried apples
- iii. Students will make observations on what they see at each station (i.e. is this a chemical or physical change that the apple turned brown? Is it still an apple? What caused the change?)

g. Grade 7/8: What Makes a Farm Sustainable?

- i. **Curriculum: Biodiversity/Interactions in the Environment/Water Systems and Cells**
- ii. Quick conversation on what makes a farm sustainable, living and non living elements in orchard ecosystem and how human choices may impact the orchard space.
- iii. In pairs, students will explore the orchard on a scavenger hunt and identify living and non living organisms and human modified parts of the orchard.
- iv. Written response: how does the orchard support biodiversity? What could it make it more sustainable? What trade-offs exist between production and conservation?

Proposed Schedule: Please note we can be flexible on our start times if afternoon field trips are preferred.

	<b>Class A (up to 30 students)</b>	<b>Class B (up to 30 students)</b>
9:30am	Orchard Tour/Wagon Ride with Tim	Petting Zoo with teachers/volunteers
10:00am	Petting Zoo with teachers/volunteers	Orchard Tour/Wagon Ride with Tim
10:30am	Kinaesthetic Game with Tim	Kinaesthetic Game with teachers/volunteers



#### Take Home Gift:

Each student will receive a Shuh Orchards canvas bag (see image below), an apple, a Foodland Ontario recipe card, and a voucher to come back to the orchard at a discounted rate. The bags will be pre-packed and a marker will be provided to allow students (or teachers/volunteers) to write their name on the bag.



#### Other Notes:

- Cost is \$10/student + HST. Teachers and volunteers are free!
- Property:
  - 7 picnic tables and picnic blankets which can hold around 90 people in total. We are happy to host you post field trip for an on site snack/lunch. Lunch is not provided.
  - On site parking.
  - Ample room for bus to pull in and turn around in yard.
  - 3 washrooms and a handwashing station.
- Bags can be kept safe in our 400 sq ft. farm market place.
- If volunteers would like to purchase anything from our farm marketplace (including apples) we offer the following locally sourced products:
  - Fresh/sparkling cider
  - Maple syrup
  - Honey
  - Pumpkins
- Accessibility:
  - Our wagon ride has an accessible wagon and ramp to ensure we are wheelchair accessible
- Refund:
  - If the weather does not allow us to run the field trip for safety reasons, there will be a full refund.