

6th Grade Field Trip



FARMAMERICA

Minnesota's Center for Agricultural Interpretation

Experience

Farmamerica allows students to explore Minnesota's agricultural history over the last 200 years. Students will learn and explore the past in a unique, hands-on way by exploring historic sites including a restored prairie, 1850s homestead and 1930s dairy barn. It's a history book come to life! With this immersive experience, they can see for themselves what the past actually looked like, making it easier for them to draw their own conclusions on the time period and compare/contrast the experiences of the past to life today.

Objectives

Students will be able to describe what life was like for early European settlers of Minnesota, what agriculture was like in the 1930s and how agriculture still impacts their life today. Students will leave Farmamerica knowing what life was like in Minnesota and being able to compare to contrast each time period to their lives today.

Typical Field Trip Agenda*:

- **Prairie:** Learn what Minnesota looked like before European settlement, including the plants and animals that lived here.
- **1850s Homestead:** Learn what life was like for early European settlers during their first few years in Minnesota. Experience three different types of homes from this era that the early settlers would have built.
- **One-Room Schoolhouse:** Compare/contrast current schools with what students in the early 1900s would have had, including recess!
- **1930s Dairy Farm:** Explore the farm site, including a barn, house, outbuildings and live animals
- **Blacksmith Shop:** Join our blacksmith as he fires up the shop and demonstrates the role of a blacksmith in the early 1900s and contrasts that to what blacksmiths do today.

*Please note agenda subject to change based on availability, time of year, and number of students attending. Limited flexibility to time frame is available.

Subject areas:

Science and Social Studies

Duration:

Offered in September,
October and May.
Scheduled for 9:30am-2pm

Group size:

Max 180 students per day,
divided into up to 6 groups

Cost:

Thanks to support from
local grants, field trips are
free for students to attend.
Schools are responsible for
transportation to and from
Farmamerica and students
must bring a sack lunch.

Grades:

These field trips are
suggested for students in
Grades 3-6.



6th Grade State Standards



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Social Studies-

6.4.4.15—North America was populated by indigenous nations that had developed a wide range of social structures, political systems and economic activities, and whose expansive trade networks extended across the continent. (Before European Contact)

6.4.4.18—Economic expansion and the conquest of indigenous and Mexican territory spurred the agricultural and industrial growth of the United States; led to increasing regional, economic and ethnic divisions; and inspired multiple reform movements. (Expansion and Reform: 1792-1861)

Science-

6.1.1.1—Students will be able to ask questions about aspects of the phenomena they observe, the conclusions they draw from their models or scientific investigations, each other's ideas, and the information they read.

FarmAmerica's Field Trips are designed to reinforce classroom teachings in a unique way based on MN State Standards. This guide gives a few examples of the State Standards we strive to assist with, and an example of what we do to help meet them.

6.4.4.1— We touch on this topic when we take a class through our prairie site and our DNR representative teaches students about the bison and how it was used for goods and trade among the native American people of this region.

I CAN learn what life was like for Native Americans before Europeans settled in Minnesota.

6.4.4.18—We touch on this during your students' time at our 1850s farm site, telling students about life before expansion and why settlers came to this region. We also talk about this as the start of agricultural growth throughout the state.

I CAN learn why settlers decided to move to Minnesota.



6.1.1.1—Students will often observe and sometimes have the opportunity to participate in demonstrations and are expected to ask questions about their experience or observe at several stations throughout the day.

I CAN ask questions about what I see and hear.

I CAN ask questions about what others say or what I read.