



Brown's Family Farm Market Field Trip *Tips for Chaperones*

Trip Date _____

Thank you for offering to chaperone your schools field trip to Brown's Family Farm Market. We have been farming at this location for over 30 years, and it has become known as the source for all your homegrown fall decorating needs. Here are a few hints to help us all have a great farm experience.

Dress for the weather and dress for the farm. Older shoes, warm coats, etc.

Please park in the side field on the Northeast side (towards Ross) of the farm market, not in front of the market or in a driveway. Look for the orange fences to show the way to the parking area.

If your group is building a scarecrow, we need parent volunteers to help the children. The children need to be divided into three groups. One group will stuff the head (panty hose-by the way), being careful not stuff the legs of the pantyhose, only the body part, one group will stuff the legs or pants, and the last group will stuff the shirt. We will help with the assembly of the scarecrow when you are finished stuffing.

If you have any extra old pantyhose or old clothing fit for a scarecrow we always need donations of long pants or long sleeve shirts, for groups that forget clothing.

Safety is always a concern when responsible for little ones. Here are some things that you can do to keep the children safe.

- Do not allow children to climb on farm machinery, fences, animals, pumpkins, trucks, tables, trees, greenhouses etc. This is a good time to stress good field trip manners.
- Do not take shortcuts through the corn maze.
- The children are thrilled by the giant pumpkins, but often need to be taught not to climb on top of them. The large pumpkins are quite expensive and are not to be climbed on. They will get scratched.
- Do not let children pet or feed the animals. They are on a special diet and will get sick if they eat too much foreign materials. The animals may think that the children's fingers are food and nip them if they try to feed them. The animals are for looking, not petting,
- Stay seated on the hayride.

It helps when getting on the hayride for an adult to go on first to guide the children to the far end of the wagon. If they get on and sit down it is hard for others to get by them. Please stay seated on the ride, and keep hands inside. Do not grab the corn or it will cut your hand.

Show the children how to take turns at the straw maze. Some are very timid, some are in a hurry. Some won't go in and some won't come out!

Please only pick one pumpkin per paying person. We will provide plastic bags at the pumpkin patch for the pumpkins. Make sure that each bag gets labeled or marked with their name. Bring a marker to mark the bags if teacher doesn't have name labels. We suggest picking the pumpkin towards the end of the visit so the pumpkin isn't a burden for the small children. Some teachers prefer to pick the pumpkins and put the bags in a pile to pick up on the way to the bus. Either way works.

There are portable restrooms available at the greenhouse area.

If you use the picnic area make sure to leave it clean for the next group. Help get the trash to the trash cans.

Feel free to stop in our farm market and check out all of the fall goodies we offer. There are many photo opportunities at the farm. Remember your camera!