



MORRIS COUNTY
PARK
COMMISSION
HISTORIC SITES

Thank you for choosing Fosterfields Living Historical Farm for your class trip!

While at the farm, you will be stepping back in time almost 100 years to when Miss Caroline (Cara) Foster lived here.

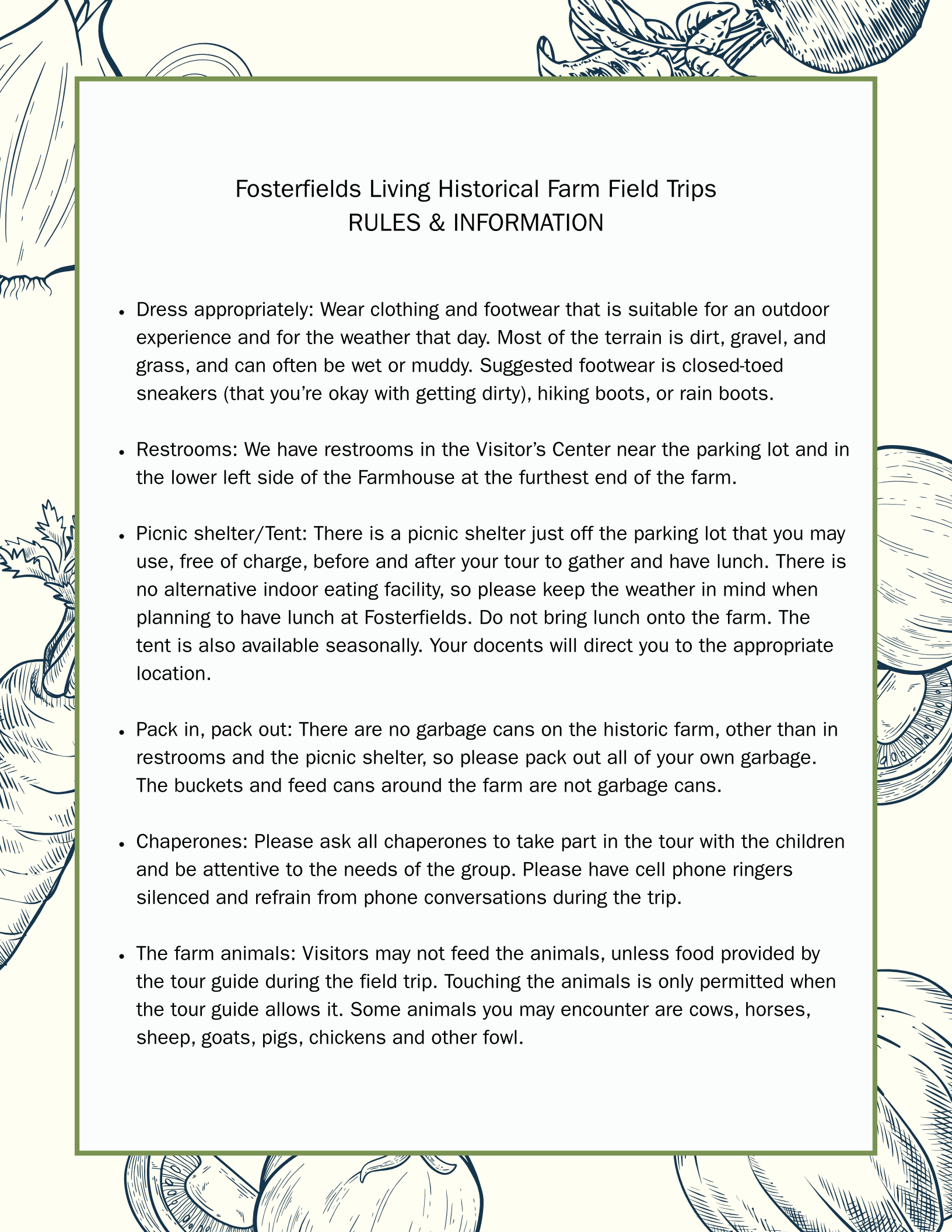
Upon arrival, please have the bus driver drop you off at the picnic shelter where your farm guides will meet you. Our entrance is on 73 Kahdena Road. As you pull into the driveway, follow the circle to the left until you reach the wooden picnic shelter. Please note that if you arrive late, your tour may be modified in order to conclude at the designated time.

Restrooms will be available in the Visitor's Center if needed before you start your tour. If you plan to use these facilities, please arrive early so that your tour can start on schedule. Classes eating lunch on site will return to the picnic shelter after their tour.

Fees are due two weeks prior to your scheduled tour and are non-refundable. We will make every effort to reschedule if necessary. Fosterfields is open rain or shine. Only during severe weather do we close the site. Please call by 9:00 AM on the day of your tour if you need to reschedule due to weather or other extenuating circumstances. If you have questions or need to make any changes to your reservation, please call 973.326.7645 or 973.631.5345

Sincerely,

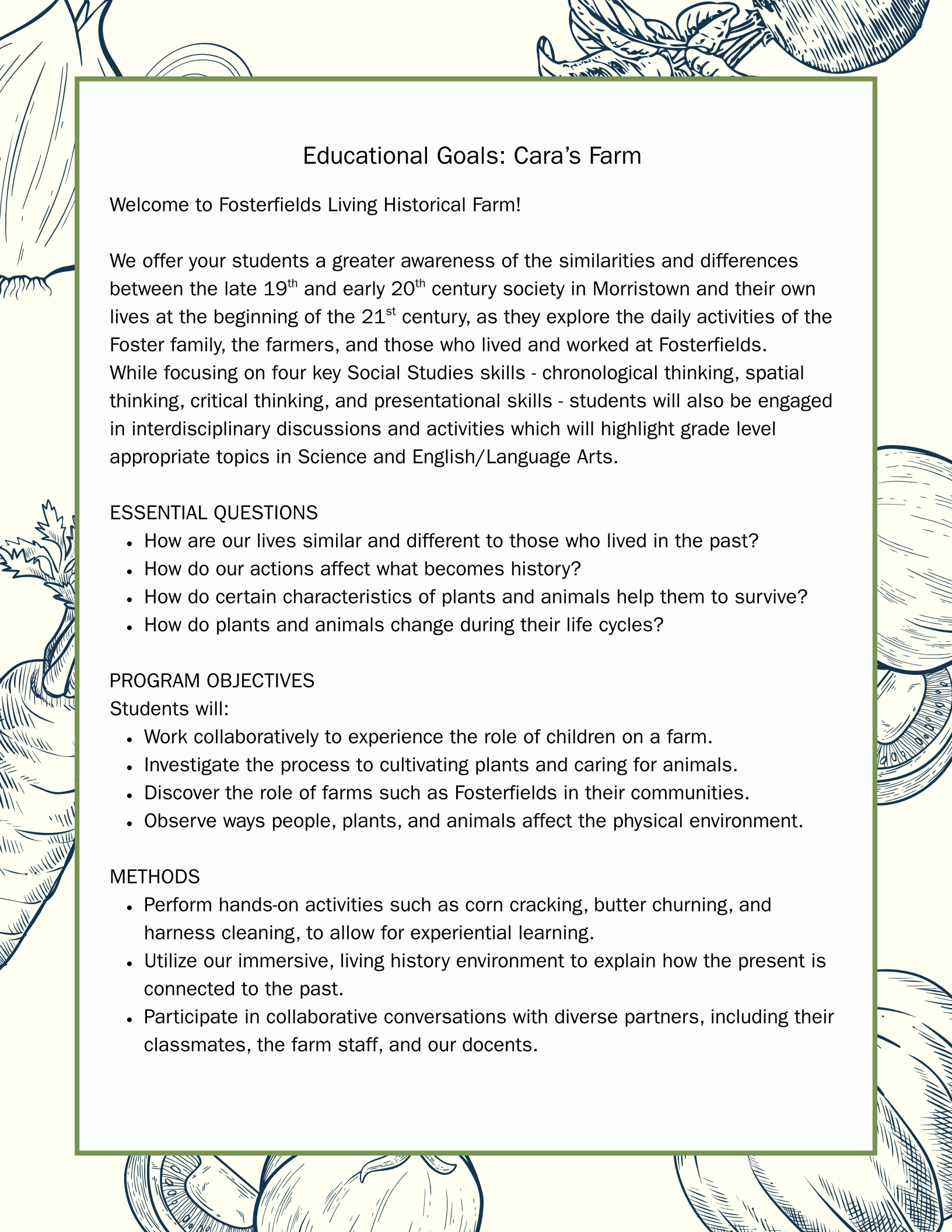
Katie McGuinness
Fosterfields Living Historical Farm
73 Kahdena Rd.
Morristown, NJ 07960
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Front desk phone: 973.326.7645



Fosterfields Living Historical Farm Field Trips

RULES & INFORMATION

- Dress appropriately: Wear clothing and footwear that is suitable for an outdoor experience and for the weather that day. Most of the terrain is dirt, gravel, and grass, and can often be wet or muddy. Suggested footwear is closed-toed sneakers (that you're okay with getting dirty), hiking boots, or rain boots.
- Restrooms: We have restrooms in the Visitor's Center near the parking lot and in the lower left side of the Farmhouse at the furthest end of the farm.
- Picnic shelter/Tent: There is a picnic shelter just off the parking lot that you may use, free of charge, before and after your tour to gather and have lunch. There is no alternative indoor eating facility, so please keep the weather in mind when planning to have lunch at Fosterfields. Do not bring lunch onto the farm. The tent is also available seasonally. Your docents will direct you to the appropriate location.
- Pack in, pack out: There are no garbage cans on the historic farm, other than in restrooms and the picnic shelter, so please pack out all of your own garbage. The buckets and feed cans around the farm are not garbage cans.
- Chaperones: Please ask all chaperones to take part in the tour with the children and be attentive to the needs of the group. Please have cell phone ringers silenced and refrain from phone conversations during the trip.
- The farm animals: Visitors may not feed the animals, unless food provided by the tour guide during the field trip. Touching the animals is only permitted when the tour guide allows it. Some animals you may encounter are cows, horses, sheep, goats, pigs, chickens and other fowl.



Educational Goals: Cara's Farm

Welcome to Fosterfields Living Historical Farm!

We offer your students a greater awareness of the similarities and differences between the late 19th and early 20th century society in Morristown and their own lives at the beginning of the 21st century, as they explore the daily activities of the Foster family, the farmers, and those who lived and worked at Fosterfields.

While focusing on four key Social Studies skills - chronological thinking, spatial thinking, critical thinking, and presentational skills - students will also be engaged in interdisciplinary discussions and activities which will highlight grade level appropriate topics in Science and English/Language Arts.

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- How are our lives similar and different to those who lived in the past?
- How do our actions affect what becomes history?
- How do certain characteristics of plants and animals help them to survive?
- How do plants and animals change during their life cycles?

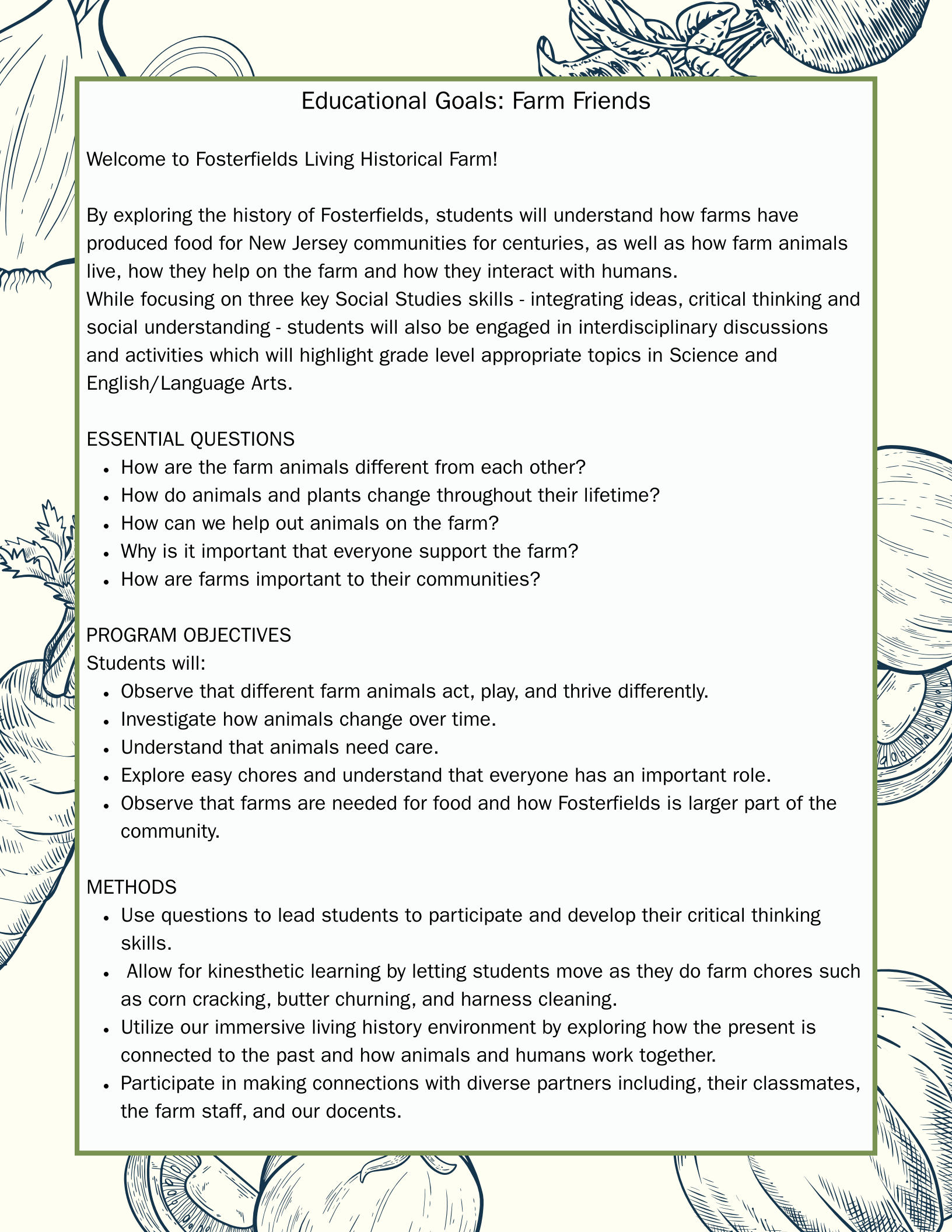
PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Students will:

- Work collaboratively to experience the role of children on a farm.
- Investigate the process to cultivating plants and caring for animals.
- Discover the role of farms such as Fosterfields in their communities.
- Observe ways people, plants, and animals affect the physical environment.

METHODS

- Perform hands-on activities such as corn cracking, butter churning, and harness cleaning, to allow for experiential learning.
- Utilize our immersive, living history environment to explain how the present is connected to the past.
- Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners, including their classmates, the farm staff, and our docents.



Educational Goals: Farm Friends

Welcome to Fosterfields Living Historical Farm!

By exploring the history of Fosterfields, students will understand how farms have produced food for New Jersey communities for centuries, as well as how farm animals live, how they help on the farm and how they interact with humans.

While focusing on three key Social Studies skills - integrating ideas, critical thinking and social understanding - students will also be engaged in interdisciplinary discussions and activities which will highlight grade level appropriate topics in Science and English/Language Arts.

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- How are the farm animals different from each other?
- How do animals and plants change throughout their lifetime?
- How can we help out animals on the farm?
- Why is it important that everyone support the farm?
- How are farms important to their communities?

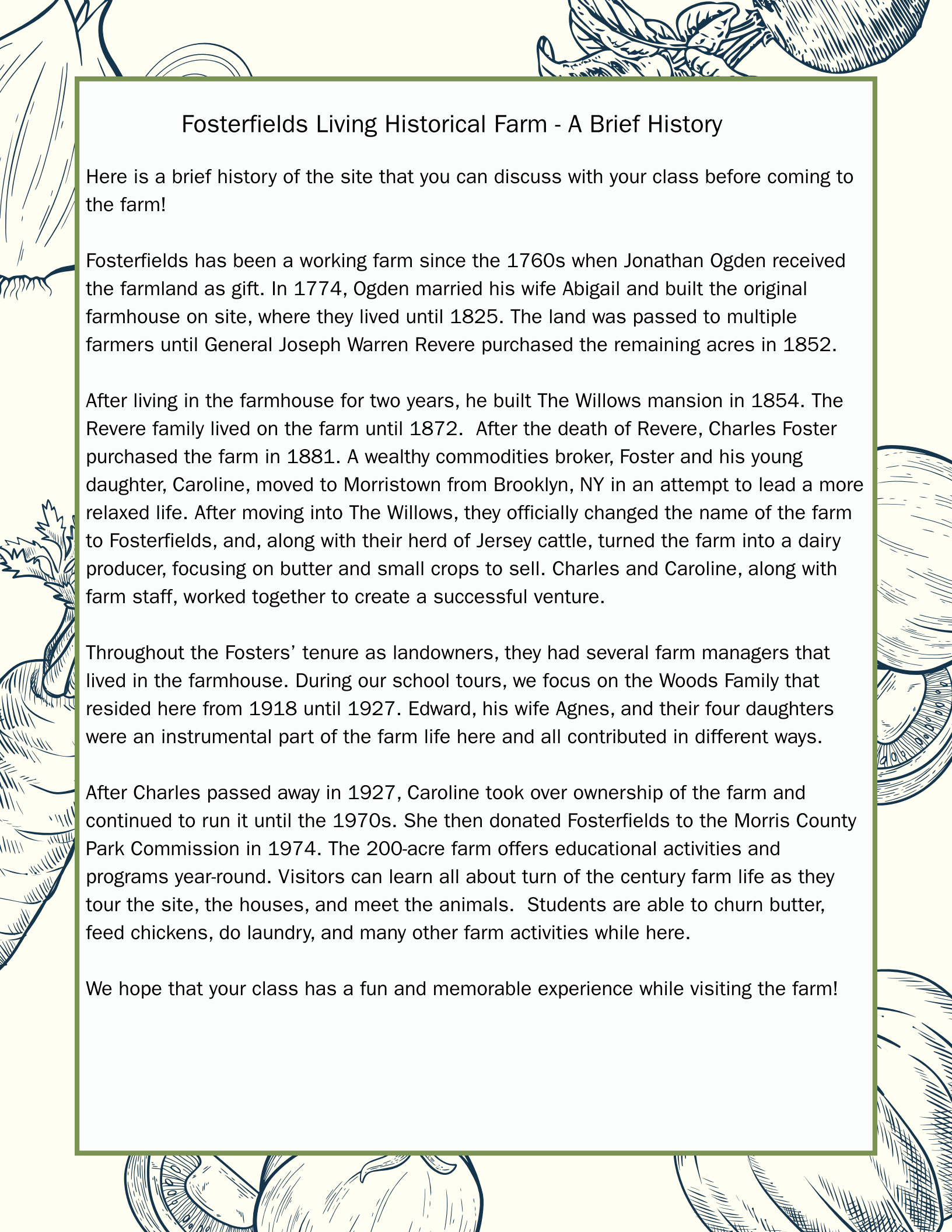
PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

Students will:

- Observe that different farm animals act, play, and thrive differently.
- Investigate how animals change over time.
- Understand that animals need care.
- Explore easy chores and understand that everyone has an important role.
- Observe that farms are needed for food and how Fosterfields is larger part of the community.

METHODS

- Use questions to lead students to participate and develop their critical thinking skills.
- Allow for kinesthetic learning by letting students move as they do farm chores such as corn cracking, butter churning, and harness cleaning.
- Utilize our immersive living history environment by exploring how the present is connected to the past and how animals and humans work together.
- Participate in making connections with diverse partners including, their classmates, the farm staff, and our docents.



Fosterfields Living Historical Farm - A Brief History

Here is a brief history of the site that you can discuss with your class before coming to the farm!

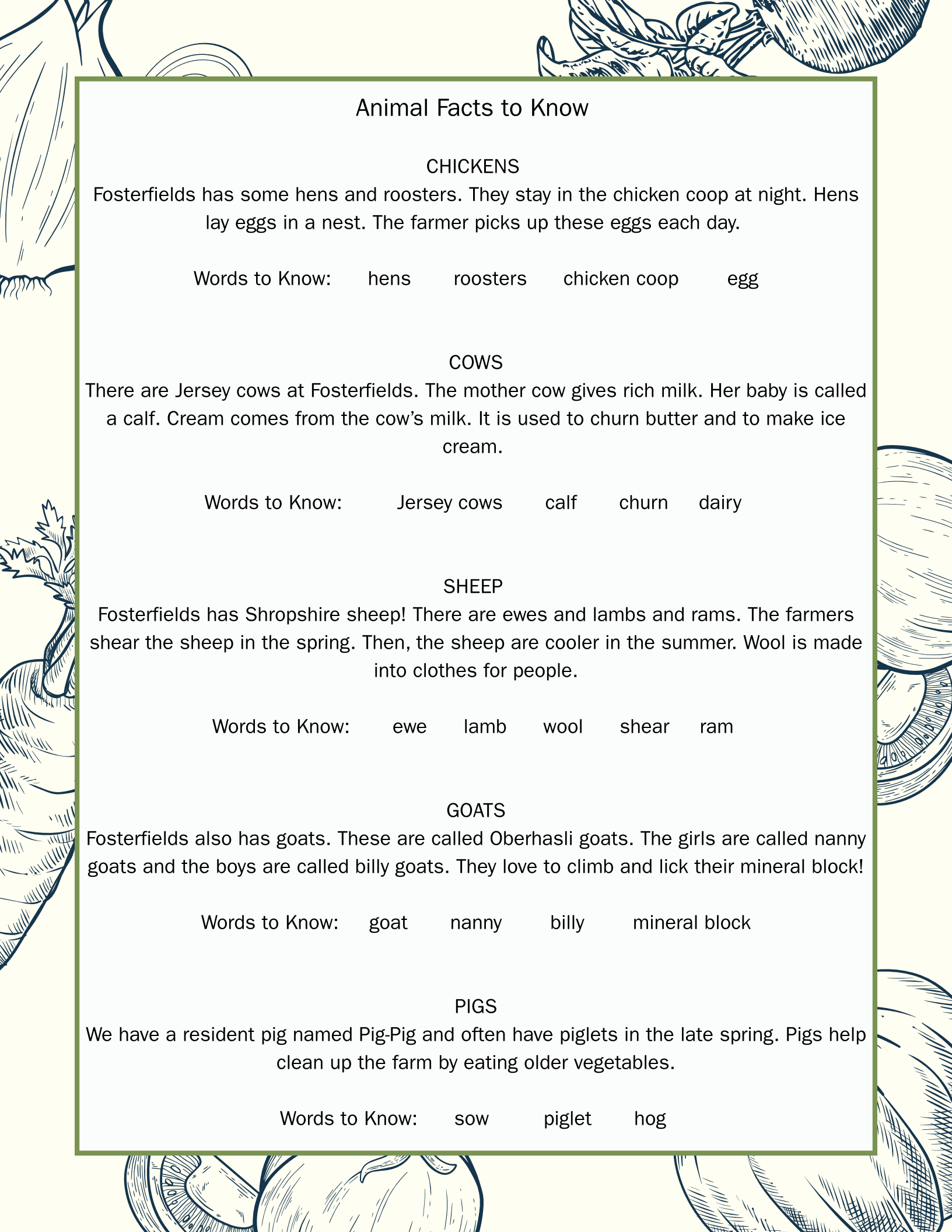
Fosterfields has been a working farm since the 1760s when Jonathan Ogden received the farmland as gift. In 1774, Ogden married his wife Abigail and built the original farmhouse on site, where they lived until 1825. The land was passed to multiple farmers until General Joseph Warren Revere purchased the remaining acres in 1852.

After living in the farmhouse for two years, he built The Willows mansion in 1854. The Revere family lived on the farm until 1872. After the death of Revere, Charles Foster purchased the farm in 1881. A wealthy commodities broker, Foster and his young daughter, Caroline, moved to Morristown from Brooklyn, NY in an attempt to lead a more relaxed life. After moving into The Willows, they officially changed the name of the farm to Fosterfields, and, along with their herd of Jersey cattle, turned the farm into a dairy producer, focusing on butter and small crops to sell. Charles and Caroline, along with farm staff, worked together to create a successful venture.

Throughout the Fosters' tenure as landowners, they had several farm managers that lived in the farmhouse. During our school tours, we focus on the Woods Family that resided here from 1918 until 1927. Edward, his wife Agnes, and their four daughters were an instrumental part of the farm life here and all contributed in different ways.

After Charles passed away in 1927, Caroline took over ownership of the farm and continued to run it until the 1970s. She then donated Fosterfields to the Morris County Park Commission in 1974. The 200-acre farm offers educational activities and programs year-round. Visitors can learn all about turn of the century farm life as they tour the site, the houses, and meet the animals. Students are able to churn butter, feed chickens, do laundry, and many other farm activities while here.

We hope that your class has a fun and memorable experience while visiting the farm!



Animal Facts to Know

CHICKENS

Fosterfields has some hens and roosters. They stay in the chicken coop at night. Hens lay eggs in a nest. The farmer picks up these eggs each day.

Words to Know: hens roosters chicken coop egg

COWS

There are Jersey cows at Fosterfields. The mother cow gives rich milk. Her baby is called a calf. Cream comes from the cow's milk. It is used to churn butter and to make ice cream.

Words to Know: Jersey cows calf churn dairy

SHEEP

Fosterfields has Shropshire sheep! There are ewes and lambs and rams. The farmers shear the sheep in the spring. Then, the sheep are cooler in the summer. Wool is made into clothes for people.

Words to Know: ewe lamb wool shear ram

GOATS

Fosterfields also has goats. These are called Oberhasli goats. The girls are called nanny goats and the boys are called billy goats. They love to climb and lick their mineral block!

Words to Know: goat nanny billy mineral block

PIGS

We have a resident pig named Pig-Pig and often have piglets in the late spring. Pigs help clean up the farm by eating older vegetables.

Words to Know: sow piglet hog