



The Food Initiative farm is an active and educational farm. Field Trips are designed for Pre-School through 8th grade students.

We cannot tell you how excited we are to be able to use our farm as a learning opportunity for your students!

Things to know before you visit: (for teachers and chaperones)

- Before arriving to the farm:
 - The lead teacher should have all “Media Release” Waivers collected from students and chaperones. They should be ready to turn in to the Program Director, Regina Hampton upon arrival
 - Any student who does not have a “Media Release” agreement signed or whose parent has not given TFI permission to use their child’s photo will get a bright colored sticker on their shirt to be identified by the person taking photos that day.
 - The lead teacher/ team should have students divided into groups and be ready to put those students into their groups as soon as they arrive on site.
 - The number of students in each group will have already been discussed with the Program Director so you’ll know how many should be in a group prior to the field trip.
 - Name tags are not required but are helpful. TFI can provide name tags if requested.

Field Trip total fees should be paid by or on the day of the scheduled field trip. Checks or cards are accepted.

- Checks need to be made to The Food Initiative
- We accept payment by card, however there is a 3% processing fee added to the total.
- Our expectations of the teachers and chaperones to:
 - Be a positive role model
 - Allow students to make discoveries on their own
 - Help facilitate proper behavior of students

- Assist the “Farm Guides” as needed
- Refrain from cell phone conversations or distracting conversations with other guests during the field trip.
- Have fun and be adventurous!
- *To connect students to their food and how it’s grown, we will offer students the opportunity to pick fresh veggies or herbs out of the garden to taste and smell.
 - The varieties offered depend on the season and what’s available
 - Teachers and Chaperones will need to be aware of any allergies.
- Unfortunately, The Food Initiative farm is not handicap accessible
 - We take all necessary precautions to ensure safety during field trip visits, however TFI is a working farm and there may be tools, equipment or other hazards present and the ground can be uneven.
- There is a nature trail and observation wall on-site that may be used during the learning station rotation. The trail does require more effort to maneuver up and down small hilly paths. (The kids love it! The adults appreciate some heads up that’s it’s there)
- Field trip guests are welcome to stay for a picnic lunch on the ground. (Teachers and chaperones are welcome to bring blankets for groups to sit on)
 - TFI will supply trash cans and bags. We ask that any garbage that comes on to the farm with your group leaves with your group.
- After lunch, teachers have the opportunity to lead further discussion with their students about what they’ve learned or experienced during their field trip.
 - This needs to be discussed with the Program Director, Regina Hampton before the day of the event. (You can always change your mind)
 - This is a good opportunity to have students journal or draw about what they’ve seen or learned during the field trip.

Don’t forget:

- Remind students to dress appropriately for the weather and wear comfortable, close-toed shoes. There is a chance that the students will get dirty while on the farm.
- Please bring your own water bottles! TFI will have areas on site to refill water bottles.
- Bug spray and sunscreen
- Organize students into groups of equal size corresponding the number of stations prior to your arrival. (You will discuss this with Regina ahead of time)
- Bring all student and chaperone “Media Release” Waivers.

Reminder:

There is no fee for accompanying teachers, bus drivers, or chaperones per the RATIO of students to adults. Any adult chaperones over the ratio number will be charged a \$4 fee. This fee will need to be added in the total amount of the field trip fee. The student to adult ratio will be discussed ahead of time with Program Director, Regina Hampton. If you have any questions about this email her at regina@thefoodinitiative.org or call (931) 802-0968.

Cancelation Policy

Field trips will take place rain or shine. If you need to cancel your field trip, please give us a notice one week prior to your scheduled date. If you cancel less than a week from your scheduled arrival then we will send a bill for the cost of your scheduled trip. In the case that TFI cancels the field trip due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances, a refund will be give or the date rescheduled.

Directions to The Food Initiative

The Food Initiative farm is roughly 1.6 miles from Carmel Elementary on Sango Rd. After passing over I-24, you will find the farm on the right side of the road at **5470 Sango Rd**. If you go over a small bridge and see barn with donkeys or goats on the right then you've gone too far!

Please contact Regina Hampton via text or a phone call at 931-802-0968 if you have any questions or concerns.