



The FACE team will be pleased to answer any questions about the charity's work and to discuss how you can help us to achieve even more success, with more children and a larger number of schools, in future years.

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For more details about FACE's current activities and those of our partners, or to access our educational resources, please see the website:

www.face-online.org.uk

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**THE PRINCE'S
COUNTRYSIDE
FUND**

Thanks to a generous grant from The Prince's Countryside Fund, we will be able to work with an extra 9000 school pupils to share our passion about what goes on in the great outdoors and how our food is produced.

The Prince's Countryside Fund works to support the people who care for the countryside by making grants to projects across the UK.

www.princescountrysidefund.org.uk



www.face-online.org.uk



Farming and
Countryside
Education



COUNTRYSIDEMATTERS
your guide to resources, activities and farm visits



COUNTRYSIDE MATTERS

Would your school like to take part in education about the countryside through:

- Visiting a farm?
- Activities in school?
- Professional Development for teachers?
- Helpful curriculum resources?

Then we can help!

FACE (Farming & Countryside Education) is a charity which aims to help young people learn more about food, farming and the countryside. Thanks to a generous grant from the Prince's Countryside Fund, we want to work with 9000 school pupils to share our passion about what goes on in the great outdoors and how our food is produced.

What are the benefits to your school?

TO YOUNG PEOPLE – new knowledge about the importance of the natural environment and farming; the link between fresh locally sourced produce and healthy eating; new knowledge about countryside careers;

TO TEACHERS - high quality programme of CPD and networking opportunities; ideas and resources to use to build food, farming and countryside into the curriculum



“The farm environment can benefit the whole child”



COUNTRYSIDEMATTERS

Visiting a farm

Why?

A farm visit gives children the opportunity to connect with the living environment. Interacting with living plants and animals provides a very rich, hands-on learning experience in which both formal and informal education can flourish. The benefits of a farm visit are widespread.

- young people will get the chance to learn in new, more relevant and exciting ways - in particular these can benefit those who find classroom learning difficult
- the school can use these new approaches to raise achievement
- the wider community can benefit through involvement
- it's an ideal way to transmit some key messages such as healthy eating.

Farm visits are about:

- Curriculum
- Location
- Activities
- CPD



How can we be sure of quality and safety?

Farmers are very keen to make sure that visits to their farms are safe and enjoyable. There is a training and accreditation scheme (CEVAS) to help farmers understand how to manage risks, plan activities that meet curriculum needs and communicate at the children's level.

What can we do on a farm?

Dorrington Hall

The farm has been managed by the same family since 1920. Steve and Jane Ellsmoor have been hosting farm visits for 6 years. The farm visits at Dorrington Hall offer a varied and flexible approach, which enables school groups to experience the abundant and diverse wildlife of the county. Lambing days are popular with schools.



Oadby Lodge Farm

This is one of seven Co-operative farms open to school visits. Children look at the soil, finding out about the crop growing cycle. They are shown how to identify seeds and, using their trowels, plant some seeds themselves. In the kitchen children have the opportunity to see how the crops they have seen growing are used for food and have a go at making their own scones or pizzas with healthy toppings,



Spitalfields City Farm

Spitalfields City Farm is a community farm in London. The farm's main aim is to 'bring the countryside to the city'. The main focus is with children under the age of five and includes animal interaction such as milking a goat and garden activities such as story-telling.



Holly Green Farm

Holly Green is a dairy farm with visits from mainstream and special schools, often from financially disadvantaged areas. One activity involves secondary students investigating the farm business as part of an enterprise project.

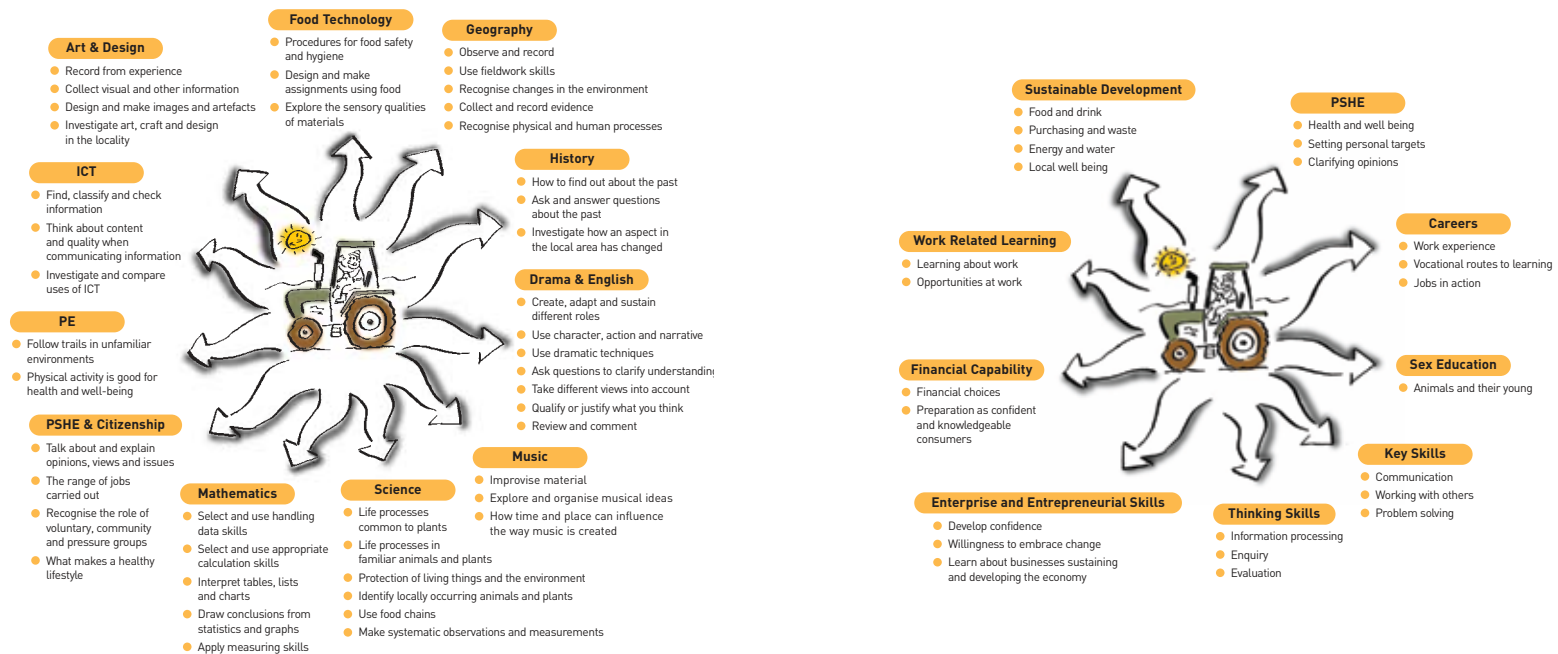


Activities in school

Why?

Learning about the countryside helps children to develop a better understanding of a part of their world about which few of them may have direct knowledge and gain awareness of farming matters within the classroom. Children are often enthusiastic about food and the countryside but may also be remote from first hand experience of food production. As they develop they become increasingly influential in the food choices their family makes and better informed about the way their foods are produced. They will begin to make important decisions about what they want for their own futures. Thinking about the issues and talking about what is important to them now and in the future is an important step in helping children develop into informed decision makers of the future.

There are many ways in which farming and growing can enrich the curriculum.



What can we do in school?

Middleton-in-Teesdale Primary & Nursery School

Learning about life cycles became far more exciting when the school started keeping its own chickens! The Early Years pupils have used an incubator to hatch eggs and they have raised the chicks and now have a regular supply of eggs. As well as finding out where their food comes from, the children have entered their hens into a local agricultural show.



Falconers Hill

Falconers Hill Infant School maximises the use of its school grounds. The children are regularly involved in growing vegetables in their garden and using the produce to cook with. They cook autumn soup from their pumpkins and make carrot cake with their crop of carrots! In this way they learn that food does not just come from the freezers at the supermarket.



Thorncombe Primary School

An assembly at this school was brought to life by a visit from a farmer who helped the children find out "Where does our breakfast come from?" This interactive session looked at typical food eaten at breakfast such as cereal, bread, eggs and milk and related the products to what they look like on the farm.



Great Missenden C of E Primary School

Food and farming is strongly embedded in this school's curriculum. FACE's Regional Co-ordinator helped teachers at the school to locate a suitable dairy farm for exciting visits and helped with follow up work which makes sure projects are sustainable, relevant and inspiring.



Professional Development for teachers

Why?

FACE offers a wide range of training opportunities for teachers and teaching assistants. Sessions provide information, introduce engaging activities and build confidence in introducing these topics into the classroom or as part of a farm visit. The various sessions include accredited food and farming workshops, careers days and seminars.



What training is available?

Rural Education Action Programme

An exciting development has been the introduction of food and farming awareness workshops for teachers and teaching assistants. These accredited courses are offered in partnership with Harper Adams University College and take place throughout the country. The programme looks at ways in which food and farming fit into the primary curriculum and highlights farm visits as a memorable learning experience.

Careers in Environmental and Land based Industries

How many careers are there in the countryside? What skills are needed to be an agricultural scientist? How much are IT skills needed? These one day sessions, accredited by Harper Adams University College, offer an insight into the wide range of career options available in the agri-food sector.

Maths on the Farm

How many shapes can be found on the farm? How can we estimate the size of a field? How old is that tree? This seminar brings maths to life through activities based on practical questions and making a maths trail.

Rural Crafts

Try your hand at lots of crafts and find out how they can be adapted for use in the classroom. This fun seminar was a chance to acquire new skills including felt making, rag rugging, spinning and weaving.





Helpful curriculum resources

Where?

There are some fantastic resources to help you include food, farming and the countryside in the curriculum. These resources can help in many ways:

- They meet curriculum requirements
- They provide information about unfamiliar and fascinating subjects
- They offer a specific context such as dairy farming or biodiversity
- They suggest novel teaching strategies or ideas

What resources are available?



Why Farming Matters (NFU)

Packs are available for both primary and secondary school teachers. They include booklets containing a series of activities for children at Key Stages Two and Three on a wide range of farming topics, as well as three sets of picture cards and a DVD containing interviews with farmers about their lives and work.

You can order a pack at www.face-online.org.uk/whyfarmingmatters
Electronic versions of the packs are available at the same address



Countryside Past, Countryside Future

(FACE with Museum of English Rural Life)

Use these fascinating photographs to encourage an understanding of the changing landscape and the people who lived in the countryside in the past. Pupils can compare their own surroundings with those of past rural locations.

Start searching at www.face-online.org.uk/cpcf



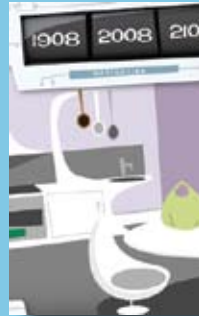
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Buzz (Syngenta and FACE)

Pupils of all ages will enjoy being a farmer and managing a profitable crop while still making sure wildlife benefits. See who can get the best score and dig deeper to find out the facts behind the choices you can make.

Visit www.buzzgame.org.uk/



Renewable World

(National Non Food Crops Centre and Growing Schools)
Let children discover the diversity of renewable materials and their role in building a sustainable future with this rich online resource.

Visit www.renewableworld.org.uk



Food for Thought (Waitrose and FACE)

Food for Thought introduces young people to the complex web of relationships and the variety of business decisions that combine to create a new food product. Working in teams, pupils take on the role of buyers, suppliers, marketing and technologists, and together they follow the product development process from farm to supermarket shelf.

To order a pack visit

www.face-online.org.uk/food-for-thought/food-for-thought-enterprise-challenge

Visiting a Dairy Farm

(Waitrose, Dairy Crest and FACE)

This CD introduces primary aged children to what goes on at the dairy farm where milk is produced and the land is cared for.

It contains activities for Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils to prepare for a visit to a farm or to complete after such an experience. Alternatively, it can be used as a stand alone resource for one-off lessons on farming.

To order a free copy, see

www.face-online.org.uk/visit-a-dairy-farm/visiting-a-dairy-farm



The Farm Behind the Food (Defra and FACE)

This website resource offers 50 fun classroom activities to help children understand food labels and to encourage them to make informed food choices.

Visit www.farmbehindthefood.org.uk

www.face-online.org.uk