

Parent classroom volunteers for Farm and Farm Science

Thanks for volunteering to come to the farm with your child's classroom!

General guidelines:

Please arrive on time for your volunteer time. Often the lesson for the day is outlined at the beginning, and it is essential that all know what is going on. It is best if you meet your class at the classroom and come to the farm together.

Come prepared to have fun and get dirty! This means sturdy footwear (sneakers or workboots), clothes that let you move, and appropriate outerwear (many classrooms come to the Farm in rain or shine). It also means bringing an open mind to learning the Ohlone way. In inclement weather some classes are moved indoors and volunteers are still needed. Calls can be made to the office to check if the farm has been closed.

When arriving on the farm, it is important to help the teacher remind children of proper conduct on the farm and reinforce the rules, particularly no running allowed, ask before picking anything and that the farm, its plants and animals should be treated with respect.

Help the teacher guide the students to the appropriate meeting place (if not prearranged otherwise, these are the gazebo in the back southeast corner for Farm with Marieluise, or at the picnic tables in front of the Farm science shed in the northeast corner for Farm Science with Tanya. Sometimes Farm Science will meet in the Library conference room).

Above all, please remember that time on the Farm is classroom time. Parents may be called upon to help with classroom

management and guiding the children to remain focused on the lessons, and to work in a safe and respectful manner (especially with tools). At times, the children will work in smaller groups, and you may be called upon to direct a particular activity (eg. transplanting seedlings for Farm, or checking the weather station for Farm science). Please stay with your group, and it may not be with your own child.

Upon leaving the farm, it is important to guide the children in helping to clean up their work area, and to have the children wash their hands and scrape their shoes (if muddy) on the boot scraper prior to returning to the classroom. You may be asked to stay behind after the class has left. We often need help to help finish with the cleanup as the farm staff need to prepare for the next class.

Please let the teacher know at the earliest possible date if you cannot fulfill your volunteer time.

We are looking forward to a fun and productive year on the Farm!

Marieluise Fries
Farm Coordinator

Tanya Buxton
Science teacher

Farm Rules:

Walk at all times

Stay on path in Garden

Ask before you pick

Respect people, plants, animals

Clean up after yourself