

Getting the message out about food and farming, how it impacts on our lives, why we do it and how it can benefit is a major part of the work of the **Suffolk Agricultural Association**, organisers of the Suffolk Show.

Its main focus is on primary school children and through educational activities the Association is showing children how and where food is grown, how farming and the countryside affects everyday life and inspiring tomorrow's farmers. Its all in a day's work for the education team!

The fun, action-packed year round programme of curriculum based educational activities takes primary and secondary level pupils out of the classroom.

Whether you are a teacher, a parent or a school governor, the education programmes listed below might be of interest to you. They are all free and are open to all key stage one and two pupils.

### Tractors into Schools

**w/c** Monday, February 18 2019

The SAA will arrange for a farmer to visit your school with their tractor to talk to the pupils about food, farming and countryside in a fun and interactive way. This can be tailored to a particular subject in the curriculum. Further details and application form will be sent to your headteacher in the autumn term.

**Age group:** Years 4 and 5.

● Apply by: Friday, December 7 2018

### Grow Your Own Potatoes

**Planting Day** – Tuesday,  
March 12 2019

**Harvesting Day** – Tuesday,  
June 18 2019

A project for your pupils to plant, grow and harvest potatoes. Enter the National Potato Council's 'Grow Your Own Potato' competition and you will be sent two chitting kits with two different varieties of potatoes. In March you will be



*Main: Suffolk Farming School of the year competition at The Learning Experience.*

*Picture: SAA*

*Left: Food and farming for students.*

*Picture: Andy Abbott*

*Far right, Schools Show Garden Competition.*

*Picture: SAA*



invited to Trinity Park to plant your potatoes and attend informative workshops to help you grow the best yields for the competition and learn about facts and figures about the humble potato and other root crops that are grown in Suffolk. Pupils are invited back in June to harvest and cook their potatoes. Further details and application form will be sent to your headteacher in the spring term.

**Age group:** Years 2, 3, and 4.

● Apply by: Friday, January 25 2019

### School Farm and Country Fair

Thursday, April 25, 2019

Four thousand pupils come to Trinity Park for a day of learning about food, farming and the countryside through fun and interactive activities. Your action packed day will take your pupils through a number of interactive zones, such as food and countryside, livestock, safety, modern farming, wildlife and conservation zones.

All activities are designed to educate children on the importance of agriculture to Suffolk and linking it to the National Curriculum and core subjects, such as maths, science, English, history, geography, art and design. Further details and application form will be sent to the school headteacher in the autumn term.

**Age group:** Years 3 and 4.

● Apply by: Friday, December 7 2018

\*For this event we are able to offer

travel grants towards the cost of your school's transport.

### Suffolk Farming School of the Year competition

The theme for 2019 to be confirmed, however the competition consists of three rounds.

**First round:** Design and build a model. This would need to be completed by the end of spring term.

**Semi-final:** After judging the first five schools will be invited to attend a learning day at Trinity Park in May 2019, to discover more about food and farming through interactive workshops hosted by industry experts. Three schools will go through to the final.

**Final:** The finalists will prepare and deliver a presentation at the Suffolk Show 2019 that will include everything that they have learnt during the competition. Children can use song, dance, miming, sign language, props, poems and other forms of performing arts to deliver their presentation. Further details and application form will be sent to your headteacher in the autumn term.

**Age group:** Years 3, 4, 5 and 6.

● Apply by: Friday, December 7 2018

### Schools Show Garden Competition

Launched in 2015, the Schools Show Garden Competition gives the schools involved the opportunity

## The Learning Experience



to design and build a 3m x 3m show garden. The 2018 theme is 'A Garden of Remembrance'. The gardens are located outside The Flower and Garden Show pavilion and it is an opportunity for the schools to showcase their gardening and design skills. Judging takes place on the first day of the show. The SAA will contribute £150 towards the cost of the garden, which schools are free to spend as they wish. Further details and application form will be sent to your head teacher in the autumn term.

**Age group:** Years 1 to 6.

● Apply by: Friday, December 7 2018

### Food and Farming Student Day

Wednesday, June 19 2019

This day for secondary school children is designed to highlight job career opportunities available to young people within food and agriculture industries. The students attend structured hands-on learning workshops covering livestock, farm retail, cereals, machinery, environment and many others – the Suffolk Agricultural Association feel it is important that we encourage young people to look at careers in agriculture and the allied industries. The skills the industry requires are not just used working on farms but in other sectors running parallel to farming.

**Age group:** Years 8 to 11.

● Apply by: To be confirmed.



Learn about all things farming