

WORKING ON THE FARM

Our Underwood Family Farms Adventure

The sun shines brightly over the fields as a group of excited preschoolers set off for their long-anticipated field trip to the farm. Their faces light up as they see the wide-open spaces, the colorful pumpkins in the patch, and the animals grazing nearby. This day is packed with adventure—riding on a tractor, picking pumpkins, and petting and feeding the animals. But more than just a fun trip, today is an opportunity for the children to grow in their developmental skills and learn important Christian values.



As the children gather, the farmers greet them with a smile and invite them to start the day with a tractor ride. The children eagerly climb aboard the large, green and yellow tractor, their feet dangling over the edge as they hold on tight. For many of them, this is their first time on such a big machine, and it brings a mix of excitement and nervousness. The gentle rumble of the tractor begins, and they start their slow ride around the farm. This experience helps the children build self-confidence and trust—they are learning to feel secure in new environments, supported by the adults around them.



As the tractor ride comes to an end, the children hop off and head toward the pumpkin patch. Here, they are tasked with picking their very own pumpkin, a challenge that blends fun with learning. As they wander through the field, each child examines the different sizes, shapes, and colors of the pumpkins, using critical thinking to decide which one to choose. They compare the pumpkins, which introduces concepts like size comparison (big, medium, small) and color recognition (orange, green, or white pumpkins).

Once they've chosen their pumpkins, the families move to the petting area and other fun farm-themed activities. The children's eyes widen with excitement as they cautiously approach the animals. Petting the animals gives the children an opportunity to practice empathy and gentleness. They learn how to be mindful of their movements and aware of the animals' needs, building a sense of responsibility.

The children then get a chance to feed the animals. Holding handfuls of grain, they giggle as the animals eat right from their palms. This feeding activity teaches them about stewardship, a Christian value centered on caring for God's creation. Through this simple act, the children learn about responsibility and what it means to care for something outside of themselves.



Throughout the day, the children also practice social skills like sharing and patience. They take turns feeding the animals, climbing on tractor slides, and meandering through other exciting attractions learning how to wait for others and celebrate each other's moments.

Bringing It All Together:

Through this memorable field trip, the preschoolers have learned more than just facts about the farm—they've developed important cognitive, social, and motor skills. They've practiced critical thinking by choosing their pumpkins, fine motor skills by feeding the animals, and social interaction by sharing and cooperating with their peers. More importantly, they've internalized key Christian values like gratitude, empathy, stewardship, and trust.

This farm adventure has not only been a day of fun and discovery but a meaningful experience that connects the children to God's creation, reinforcing that even in the everyday moments—whether it's picking a pumpkin or feeding a goat—they can reflect God's love and care for the world around them.

