October 3, 2014

Jackson County First Grade Teachers

RE: Reminders for 4-H Ag Adventures Field Trip

Dear Educators:

This year Jackson County 4-H has partnered with Florida Agriculture in the Classroom, Inc., to provide a hands-on agriculture awareness field trip for Jackson County 1st graders. The purpose of the program is to increase student awareness and understanding of agriculture. This event will tie in nicely with unit studies on peanuts, corn, corn mazes, corn-grinding, cotton, dairy, livestock, composting, bee keeping, etymology and forestry. We have also added a rocketry station that we will use to discuss future ways to get food to other places in the world! The field trip will take place at the UF/IFAS Research Center in Greenwood, on October 28 and 29, 2014. A tour guide will accompany each classroom and keep them on schedule. We have information on our webpage regarding this event that you will find useful, including the following:

Letter to Parents – Teachers should send a copy of this letter to parents/guardians.

Program Logistics – Teachers should review this information in order to adequately plan for the field.

Schedule and Map – Please review both and take note of where your first station is located. Tour guides will have a copy of both at the field trip. Remember, bus assignments should be made to accommodate the schedule. Do not split classes or tour groups. Groups 1-6 should report directly to the research fields on Hwy 71 at 9:00 AM for the first station. Groups 7-12 should report directly to the Beef Unit on Hwy 162 at 9:00 AM for the first station.

I hope that you and your students are excited about the upcoming 4-H Ag Adventures field trip. We have a wonderful program planned, and our volunteers and instructors are looking forward to helping your students discover new things about Florida agriculture.

A letter to parents is attached. Also, information regarding logistics, and a schedule and map will be available next week from our webpage at http://jackson.ifas.ufl.edu/4-h/4-h-ag-adventures/. Please take a moment to review this information and be sure that you share this information with chaperones and substitute teachers.

Below are just a few more reminders:
• Every student and teacher should bring a lunch and a drink. Lunch will be “picnic style.” Teachers may wish to bring a few blankets to sit on.

• **Bus assignments for each school should be based on the rotation schedule. For example, buses for Groups 1-6 should report directly to the research fields at 9:00 AM.**

• If a child has a food allergy (e.g. peanut products, milk, honey), please let your tour guide know. They will provide the child with a blue arm band.

• Arrive at your stations on time so that we can stay on schedule and ensure that students are able to participate in all the stations.

• At the end of the tour, your students will be asked to participate in a 4-H evaluation that will include questions pertaining to the tour. We ask for your patience and cooperation as we complete this very important aspect of this educational activity. A sample of the evaluation is enclosed for your reference. I will provide a follow-up evaluation for you, as the educator, to complete following the event.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns at (850) 482-9620 or amgranger@ufl.edu. I am looking forward to seeing you and your students!

Sincerely,

Angel Granger, 4-H Youth Development Agent

Attachments: parent letter, student evaluation