

Billings Farm & Museum

An Apple A Day

This program consists of 3 components:

20 minutes in the orchard where students will discover the many different sizes, shapes and colors of apples, examine the interior of an apple (*hands-on*) and sequence the life cycle of an apple (*hands-on*).

20 minutes pressing cider where students will press apples into cider and taste what they produce (*hands-on*).

20 minutes peeling apples where students can eat the apple they have peeled (*hands-on*).

Grades 4 & up: Students will also observe an apple tree graft and investigate the methods and tools for grafting.

These sessions do not always occur consecutively. In addition to this main program, which you have selected, we will build a customized schedule which may include, as time allows, a visit to the livestock barns, playing historic games, and exploring the Farm Life Exhibits, among others. Late arrivals and early departures will impact your schedule.

Below are some of the vocabulary words that will be used in your program:

Scion – a living shoot or twig of a plant used for grafting to a stock

Graft – joining one thing to another

Pip – a small hard seed of a fruit

Blossom – a mass of flowers appearing on a tree or bush

Variety – a specific type or kind within a general group

Pollination – the transfer of pollen grains resulting in fertilization

Orchard – an area of land on which fruit trees are grown

Limb – a major branch of a tree

Dormant – not actively growing

Prune – to cut branches away; to reduce something by removing unwanted material

Pectin – a gelling agent

Pomace – the pulpy mass that remains after apples have been pressed to extract the juice