

Background History for Pickin' in the Strawberry Patch Program:

Boone Hall Plantation In 1681, Major John Boone was granted 470 acres of land as a dowry from Theophilus Patey who had received the land from the Lord Proprietors. He then expanded this land from 1681 to 1711 when he died. Boone Hall Plantation was a substantial piece of property in the Lowcountry of Carolina. From 1817 until 1935 the Horlbeck family owned the plantation. Henry and John Horlbeck were in the brick business. They expanded the plantation's brickyard and crop land to 1700 acres, increasing the slave numbers to supply workers for the plantation.

Agricultural Crops Three main cash crops were planted on this plantation between 1681 and the early 1900s. Indigo, cotton and pecan trees supplied the plantation with all of the wealth it could afford. Boone Hall Plantation did grow rice but only a small crop mainly for the consumption of its inhabitants. Today Boone Hall Plantation is one of the only working plantations left in South Carolina. Now the staple crops of the plantation are strawberries, tomatoes, peppers, and pumpkins although; grapes, blueberries, eggplant, zucchini, squash and asparagus are also grown here.

Weather Farming in general relies on the weather just as we do. Here at Boone Hall Plantation our weather station allows the farmer to keep an eye on the weather that happens here on the plantation. The weather station is connected to a computer monitor that allows the farmer to check the temperature in the fields throughout the day and night. Weather events such as frost, too much or too little rain can damage and kill plants.

Wildlife Growing vegetables and fruits on a plantation is never an easy feat when you have local wildlife that eat the foods you are trying to produce. Local White-tail deer, Raccoon and Opossum populations need to be deterred from going into the fields. Here at Boone Hall we use a variety of techniques to do this such as putting fencing or pouring hot sauce around the fields.

Program Goals:

Students will be able to:

- ▶ List the five things that all living things need to survive
- ▶ Explain how weather affects the life cycle of strawberries
- ▶ Interpret the history of the strawberry
- ▶ Identify a strawberry flower, an unripe strawberry and a ripe strawberry
- ▶ Explain how people, plants and animals interact in the case of growing strawberries
- ▶ Explain how weather affects the life cycle of strawberries

2008 South Carolina Academic Standards Fulfilled:

Science: K-1.1, K-2.1, K-2.2, K-2.4, K-2.5, K-4.3
1-2.1, 1-2.2, 1-2.3, 1-2.4
2-1.3, 2-2.4, 2-3.2
3-1.2, 3-1.3, 3-2.1, 3-2.2, 3-2.4, 3-5.1

English Language Arts: K-3.3, K-3.7, K-6.1, K-6.4, K-6.5
1-3.3, 1-6.1, 1-6.4, 1-6.5
2-3.1, 2-3.3, 2-6.1, 2-6.5, 2-6.6
3-3.1, 3-6.1, 3-6.3, 3-6.6

Vocabulary: **Character Education Vocabulary**

Responsibility - moral, legal, or mental accountability

Respect - the quality or state of being held in high or special regard

Trust - assured reliance on the character, ability, strength, or truth of someone or something

Self-control – control of one’s own feelings and actions

Program Specific Vocabulary

Root - the part of a plant that grows into the ground. It holds the plant in place and takes water and food from the soil.

Stem - the main part of a plant or tree that grows up from the ground and bears leaves and flowers

Leaves - any of the flat, green parts growing from the stem of a plant or tree

Fruit - the part of a flowering plant that contains the seeds

Flower - the part of a plant that bears the seeds and usually has brightly colored petals; a blossom or bloom

Pollen - the yellow powder that is found on the stamens of flowers

Seed - the part of a flowering plant that is able to grow into a new plant

Soil - the top layer of the earth, in which plants grow

Immature - not fully grown or developed (Immature fruit is not ready to be eaten.)

Frost - a covering of tiny ice crystals that forms on a surface when dew or water vapor freezes

Pre and Post Visit Activities:

Pre-Site Activities:

1. Review the vocabulary and draw a picture that represents each word.

2. Go to the website, www.boonehallplantation.com, to learn about Boone Hall Plantation and its resources.
3. Read books and newspaper or magazine articles relating to farming or strawberry growing.
4. Draw a picture of a strawberry and label its parts.
5. Make up a song about the life of a strawberry or a farmer. (This can be class or group work)

Post-Site Activities:

1. Make a timeline of the history of strawberry farming.
2. Reflect on how animals and humans have affected farming.
3. Make a poster listing all of the rules that people should follow when picking strawberries.
4. Class Project: Complete at least four of the following:
 - Make up a new farm or plantation. Some questions to answer are:
What is it called?
Where is it located?
What kind of crops do you grow or do you raise animals?
What important features does it have (rivers, lakes, waterfalls, mountain, etc.)?
What animals live there (herbivores, carnivores, omnivores)?
 - Design a brochure for your new farm so that visitors feel welcome to see what's going on there.
 - Sketch a picture of this farm.
 - Make a video commercial promoting visitation to the farm.
 - Write a newspaper article as a reporter doing a story on the opening festivities of this new educational farm or write an article on how you think farms benefit our country and the people who live here.
 - Create a radio jingle to draw visitors to the farm to pick or buy your produce.

(Make a teacher/student-made rubric to grade projects. A helpful websites are:

<http://rubistar.4teachers.org/index.shtml> or http://www.teach-nology.com/web_tools/rubrics/general)

Want to Learn More?

Images of America: Boone Hall Plantation by Michelle Adams

From Seed to Plant by Gail Gibbons

Farming by Gail Gibbons

The Little Mouse, The Red Ripe Strawberry, and The Big Hungry Bear by Audrey Wood

Grey Lady and the Strawberry Snatcher by Molly Bang

Strawberry Girl by Lois Lenski

Saving Strawberry Farm by Deborah Hopkinson