

Gibbs Farm SPPS Kindergarten Tour Scheduling Procedure:

Teachers can contact Gibbs Farm to schedule their field trip by calling 651-646-8629 or by emailing Site Manager, Sammy Nelson, at sammy@rchs.com. Please provide your name and contact information as well as the number of classrooms and the estimated number of students.

Kindergarten field trips are 90 Minutes. Teachers are highly encouraged to schedule as soon as possible to secure a date and time. Tours starting 12pm or later will be given priority. (Note: The Gibbs Farm SPPS Kindergarten tour does not include the one-room schoolhouse).

In addition to teachers and paraprofessionals, schools may bring two family chaperones per classroom of students.

Fall Fieldtrips: Weekdays starting Monday, September 16 – Friday, November 1.

Spring Fieldtrips Weekdays starting Friday, May 1- Tuesday, June 9th.



Pathways to Dakota & Pioneer Life
Experience | Understand | Grow

Gibbs Farm Field Trips

SPPS KINDERGARTEN TOUR

Specially designed for Kindergarten students

Jane and Heman Gibbs were among the first settlers in Minnesota. Our SPPS Kindergarten Tour, led by costumed interpreters, includes the Pioneer Soddy, *Dakota Tipi*, Farm Animals and Birds, and the pioneer and Dakota Gardens.

Travel back in time at Gibbs Farm!

SPPS Kindergarten Tour Stations

Farm Animals and Birds

Early Minnesota farmers raised different kinds of animals and fowl. Learn why they were so important and how farmers cared for them.

The Fowl: Visit the chicken coop and the duck and goose pond. Compare the size of their eggs, feathers, and even the feet of the birds.

The Pasture Animals: Meet the kinds of animals the Gibbs family would have raised. Discover the role they played in the lives of early settlers.

Dwellings

Dakota Indians and pioneer settlers each made homes from natural materials found in Minnesota. Compare these two types of dwellings found at the Gibbs Farm site.



The Tipi: The seasonal travel of Dakota people required a portable dwelling and the *tipi* served that purpose. Children learn what life was like in this traditional dwelling and hear the

story of Buffalo Nation which demonstrates how each part of the buffalo was used.

The Soddy: The Soddy is a replica of the one-room house the Gibbs built when they arrived in St. Paul in 1849. The structure is half underground, half above ground and has a sod roof. Students will learn about how the construction of the structure helped regulate temperature and explore what everyday life would have been like.

Plants & Prairie

Students will be introduced to two kinds of gardens and learn what would grow in them. Students will also learn about the Gibbs Farm prairie.

Dakota Garden: Students will discover the ingenious planting strategy utilized by the Dakota during the 1800s. Children will perform a skit that demonstrates the way that corn, beans, and squash were planted.

Pioneer Garden: Children will learn about the different parts of a plant and why each is important. They will identify vegetables from our Gibbs Garden Basket and discover what parts of the plant we eat.



Ramsey County Historical Society's Gibbs Farm
2097 W. Larpentour Avenue • Falcon Heights MN 55113
651-646-8629 • sammy@rchs.com • www.RCHS.com

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KINDERGARTEN TOUR

About the Standards

This tour for Kindergarten students satisfies several
Minnesota Academic Standards in Science:

- 0.1.2.1.1 **The Nature of Science and Engineering**
Sort objects into those that are found in nature and those that are human made.
- 0.4.1.1.1 **Life Science**
Observe and compare animals and plants.
- 0.4.1.1.2 **Life Science**
Identify the external parts of plants
- 0.4.2.1.1 **Life Science**
Observe a natural system - a prairie or garden.

This tour for Kindergarten students satisfies
Minnesota Academic Standards in Social Studies:

- 0.4.1.1.1 **History**
Use variety of words to reference past.

What Teachers are Saying

Comments from teachers show the impact of Gibbs Farm field trip on their students:

- “They liked the *tipi* and the house with the grass roof. My students had no idea about these kinds of structures.”
- “They loved seeing the live animals and talked about the furs too.”
- “Everything helps to expand their background knowledge base.”
- “Thanks so much for giving us this great opportunity for our kids!”

Gibbs Farm Staff

Gibbs Farm specially hires staff with experience working with pre-K and elementary school-aged children for our Kindergarten Tour. All Gibbs Farm staff undergo State of Minnesota background checks.

Dakota Language

Language is at the core of every culture. Students will learn key *Dakota* words at some of the stations throughout this tour.

Pidamaya (thank you)



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RAMSEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Preserving our past, informing our present, inspiring our future.

