



**SEPT. 6 - 15  
2024**

# EDUCATOR'S GUIDE

There's always  
something to  
discover  
*at*  
KANSAS' LARGEST  
CLASSROOM



## PRESCHOOL AND ELEMENTARY FIELD TRIPS

The Kansas State Fair is a place of awe and wonder. From barns filled with animals to specialty exhibits geared for young students – the Fair is an ideal place to plant lasting ideas in the fertile ground of your students' minds. Many experienced teachers build a custom plan that fits their schedule and classroom needs. Actual teacher-made Fair schedules can be found at [www.kansasstatefair.com](http://www.kansasstatefair.com).

## EDUCATION CENTER

**Hours and location: 9 a.m. to 7 p.m., at the corner of Bison Blvd. and Lake Talbott Ave.**

One stop you do not want to miss is the Education Center. Students, parents and teachers will discover how important pollinators are to agriculture and the many agriculture products we use as consumers. Educational materials like the Agriculture and Pollinator Passports, Math-on-a-stick and Ferris Wheel ABC are available for pick-up. Activities and crafts are available daily, stop in and see what fun surprises await!

**Also featured** – an interactive display showcasing the Cattle Industry of Kansas. From what beef and dairy cattle eat to the different products they provide consumers - students can see this here! Thanks to our sponsors – **Cargill & Southwest Dairy Farmers.**



Check in at the Education Center for all new crafts for 2024 as well as some kid-approved favorites.

Individual classroom times for hands-on activities can be scheduled Monday-Friday. Email: [melissa.blake@ks.gov](mailto:melissa.blake@ks.gov).

## FIELD TRIP REGISTRATION

### Days of Operation:

Field trips are available Monday through Friday but are not offered on the first Friday or on weekends.

### Admission:

\$3 per student, \$7 per adult.

### Registration Deadline:

Friday, Sept 6, 2024

One complimentary adult ticket will be provided for every four student tickets ordered. Those attending Dillon's Day should still register to secure reserved parking and lunch assistance.

# RECOMMENDED ACTIVITIES - AGRICULTURE

## Agriland and the Ag Passport

Hours and Location: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Pride of Kansas Building



With the **Agriculture Passport**, students make their way in scavenger-hunt style through our Birthing Center, Milking Parlor, various animal exhibits, Agriland and the FFA Ag Education Exhibit.

Students who hit all stops on the passport will receive a prize and a coupon for a free ice cream cone at the Grandstand Dairy Bar courtesy of **Kansas Farm Bureau**.

Pick up an Ag Passport from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Education Center or print it in advance from our website – [kansasstatefair.com](http://kansasstatefair.com).



## Elementary Programming

Through Agriland’s hands-on activities, students learn how agriculture touches their daily lives – from the food they eat to the clothes they wear. They can weigh themselves on a livestock scale, milk a cow, drive a combine, see how a cotton gin works and learn about what’s going on in the living soil under their feet.

## Butter Sculpture and Kansas’ Largest Pumpkin

Hours and Location: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Pride of Kansas Building

These popular destinations are in the Pride of Kansas Building. Students can also view different varieties of produce and floriculture, the best crops and a live beehive. See the many products Kansas has to offer!

## Capper Building



One of the projects the Kansas Fairgrounds Foundation has been working on for the last 18 months is the complete rebuild of the House of Capper and the addition of the Capper Cooperative Park to the Kansas State Fairgrounds. This permanent walk-through educational park will commemorate former Governor & US Senator Arthur Capper and the work he did as well as pay tribute to the work of all types of cooperatives which help build our state and our nation.

# AGRICULTURE

## Birthing Center – A Fair Favorite!

**Hours and Location: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily, on the corner of 20<sup>th</sup> Ave. & Fort Scott Blvd.**

The Birthing Center offers a unique experience for students to learn about the miracle of life. Since its debut in 1994, young and old have made the Birthing Center a must see at the Kansas State Fair!

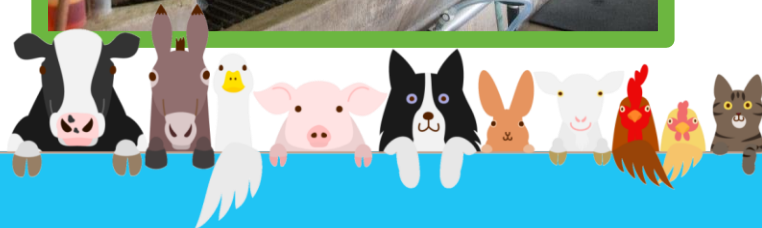
Students learn about the birthing process – plus gain insight about animal agriculture and veterinary medicine. Newborn calves, lambs, kids, piglets, ducklings and chicks are always a hit and can help students better understand life cycles and food production. “Bessie,” K-State’s popular birthing simulation cow, will be back to give students a “hands-on” experience in the birth of a calf.



## Milking Parlor

**Hours and Location: Demonstrations are at 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 12 p.m., 1p.m., 2 p.m. and 6 p.m., between the Dairy Tie Barn and Prairie Pavilion on 20<sup>th</sup> Ave.**

Students will love witnessing first-hand how milk makes its way from the farm to their home in the milking demonstrations. This live exhibit is narrated by a Kansas dairy professional who walks students through the milking process, the life cycle of a dairy cow and answers questions your class might have about milk’s journey. The Milking Parlor is sponsored by **Southwest Dairy Farmers** and the **Kansas Dairy Association**.



## Guided Barn Tours – Moo U

**Hours and Location: Tours are at the top of the hour from 9 a.m. to noon and 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., in front of the Birthing Center on 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue.**

Moo U Barn Tours are a guided 45-minute walk through the world of poultry, beef, dairy, sheep, swine and rabbits. Tour guides either have a degree in agriculture or a solid background in the industry. Guides use a portable PA system so they can easily relay interesting and little-known facts about the livestock on the tour. They also explain the complexities of the livestock industry and give examples of many ways animal by-products are used in everyday life. Tours can be adjusted to meet the needs of a wide age range of students. Each participant gets a coupon for a free ice cream cone from the Grandstand Dairy Bar provided by **Kansas Farm Bureau**.



## Pollinator Passport

Go on a scavenger hunt to discover how important pollinators are to agriculture and the many products we use as consumers. Students can view three different pollinator gardens full of native Kansas wildflowers and grasses. Pick up your Pollinator Passport at the Education Center. Students can turn completed passports in to the Education Center to receive a prize and a coupon for a free ice cream cone at the Grandstand Dairy Bar – brought to you by **Kansas' Largest Classroom Sponsor, Kansas Farm Bureau.**

## Poultry and Rabbit Barn

**Hours and Location: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily, on the corner of 20<sup>th</sup> Ave. & Fort Scott Blvd.**

A popular stop for all ages, the barn has 2,800 coops that house variety of rabbits and chickens, pigeons, turkeys and other poultry.

## You Be the Judge

The “You Be the Judge” program is a great way for students to learn about different livestock and what products are produced from that animal. It helps students understand what is happening during a livestock show. Posters near the various show rings explain what judges look for in each animal, correct terms used to identify the species and label the different body parts. Livestock show schedules can be found on the mobile app or at [www.kansasstatefair.com](http://www.kansasstatefair.com).

## FFA Agricultural Education Building

**Hours and Location: 8:30 a.m. until dark at the corner of 23<sup>rd</sup> and Bison Blvd.**

FFA youth lead this hands-on agricultural learning opportunity for all ages of youth. Also on display are tractor refurbishing and equipment construction projects. As a bonus, this is the home of the Grand Champion 4-H/FFA beef, sheep, goat and swine. **Sponsored by MKC**

## Rub-A-Dub-Dub, What's In the Tub? Grab Some Grub!

**Starts the first Sunday of the Fair and continues daily. Baths are given at 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Feeding is at 2 p.m.**

Located just outside the FFA Agricultural Education Building, the Champion Grand Drive animals are taken out of their Fair home and given a bath or fed. FFA staff will discuss and field questions about feed and care of the animals during bath and feeding times.



## Live Butterfly Watch

At the Education Center

New this year – come watch our larvae as they take the journey to a beautiful butterfly. Will you be here when they hatch from their cocoon?

## Pollinator Talk

At the Education Center  
- Weekends at 9:30 a.m.



Gather by our beautiful pollinator gardens at the Education Center to learn more about the birds, bees, bats and butterflies. Afterwards, grab your pollinator passport and go on a hunt for your favorite pollinator.



## Pig Races

The pig races are back! Get ready to watch these pigs sprint around the track at their new location by Hedrick's Petting Zoo.



## Dog Agility & Meet the Breed Demos

All day Wednesday, Sept. 11 at the Expo Center.

Youth get an up close and educational experience about different dog breeds, plus learn about dog agility & obedience.



## Dino Refuge

Lake Talbott & Education Center

See life-like dinosaurs along with interactive baby dinosaur puppets, provide both educational insights and spectacular entertainment.



## Kansas Department of Wildlife & Parks



Hours and Location: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. in the Eisenhower Building

**Animals of the Prairie Display** – Experience the life-sized Bison and other wildlife found on the Kansas prairie. Wildlife and Parks staff are on hand to answer questions.

For related activities and lesson plans to enhance your trip to the Kansas State Fair, visit The Kansas Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom website at [ksagclassroom.org](http://ksagclassroom.org).



# STEM ACTIVITIES



## Dr. Goddard's Lab

**Hours and Location: 10 a.m., 11 a.m., noon and 2 p.m. at the Education Center.**

Dr. Goddard's Lab is an interactive show using live rocketry demonstrations to teach force and propulsion, plus early rocket history. The lab is presented by the **Cosmosphere International SciEd Center and Space Museum**. It is named after Dr. Robert Goddard, an American engineer credited with creating the world's first liquid fueled rocket, which he successfully launched on March 16, 1926.

## KDHE MOBILE LAB

**Hours and Location: Daily, 509 Bison Boulevard**

The KDHE Mobile Laboratory Experience (MLE) is an immersive, educational experience brought to K-12 public schools across Kansas. Featuring hands-on science experiences taught by professional educators and scientists, this onsite field trip is completely grant funded and available for a limited time. Through the wonder of science, the MLE introduces Public Health and inspires future scientists in the related sectors of biology, animal science, environmental science, genetics, chemistry and more!



## Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services

**Hours and Location: Daily, North of Peoples Bank and Trust Arena on Cottonwood Ave.**

Professionals from across Kansas help students learn Hands-Only CPR, how to use the acronym F.A.S.T. to recognize a stroke and show off the latest equipment inside their ambulances.

## Kansas 4-H Educational STEM Activities

**Hours and Location: Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 am-2:00 pm located in Centennial Hall**

Every hour interactive STEM activities will be shared at both stages in Centennial Hall. These activities are suitable for youth from 5-12 years of age. Each activity will run 30 minutes or less.



## Basics of Electricity and Electrical Safety Demonstration

**Hours and Location: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Friday in the Ad Astra Building.**

**Kansas Electrical Cooperative** journeyman linemen demonstrate how to tell when a line is energized, what protective gear linemen use and what happens to a person who comes into contact with an energized line. Find out why electricity arcs and why birds can land safely on power lines. Students also can build their own electrical circuits. Demonstrations every 20 minutes.

## Math-On-A-Stick

If you think food is the only thing that comes on a stick at the Kansas State Fair, you haven't seen Math-on-a-Stick! This fun learning exercise helps your students explore the fairgrounds through the lens of mathematics, angles and simple machines. Students are asked to identify and record acute, right, straight and reflex angles, which can be found throughout the Fair. Additionally, the game encourages students to identify simple machines, like wedges, screws and pulleys. Pick up Math-on-a-Stick at the Education Center or print at [www.kansasstatefair.com](http://www.kansasstatefair.com). Students can present their completed form at the Education Center for a prize.



# COMPETITIVE EVENTS

## School Art – Classroom Category (Grades K-12)

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Tuesday, August 27.**

**Hours and Location: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. at the Oz Gallery.**

Each student is allowed **one** entry from their teacher(s). Find categories, rules and registration at [kansasstatefair.com](http://kansasstatefair.com) and click on COMPETITIONS.

Students can enter all other artwork and crafts individually through the Fine Arts Department. **Entry deadline for Fine Arts is August 1.** Contact [nancy.j.schmutz@ks.gov](mailto:nancy.j.schmutz@ks.gov) for Fine Arts questions.





# HIGH SCHOOL CONTESTS AND EVENTS

## Marching Band Competition

Bands compete Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday mornings of the Fair. **REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Friday, Aug 30.**

Nearly 6,000 band students attend the Kansas State Fair each year, performing in a marching competition around the Fairgrounds before putting their best foot forward for a professionally judged competition at the People's Bank and Trust Arena. It's not only one of the most popular features during the Kansas State Fair, but a time-honored tradition for students and teachers. **Sponsored by HeadQuarters Kansas.**



## Scholastic Press Corps

The Scholastic Press Corps is a yearly favorite that often fills up well before the end of the previous school year. This is a fantastic chance for students interested in print and broadcast journalism to experience work in the real world – spending one day at the Fair producing a newsletter, video or broadcast related to their Fair experience. About 250 students each year craft several story packages – including specific assignments from the Fair – which are submitted for competition.



## Esports Tournament

**Hours and Location: Friday, September 13**  
**8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. in the Encampment Building – Dillon Hall**

New this year, high schools from across Kansas will come and compete in an esports tournament inside Dillon Hall. Watch the action unfold as these skilled players game until only one team remains. **Sponsored by XP League.**

Looking for a schedule or special event? Go to the [kansasstatefair.com](https://kansasstatefair.com) mobile-friendly website for the latest Kansas State Fair information!

# SHOWCASES AND INTERNSHIPS

## Debate & Forensic Showcases

**Debate Showcase: Tuesday, Sept. 10**

**9 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

**Forensics Showcase: Thursday, Sept. 12**

**9 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

**Encampment Building – Hansen Auditorium**

Demonstrations provide the chance for academic teams to hone their talents, skills and showcase winning performances from the previous school year. **Sponsored by Sterling College.**



## Photography Internships

**High School and College**

**Monday, Sept. 9 - Friday, Sept. 13**

Amateur photographers from Kansas high schools descend upon the fair each year, showcasing their skills while capturing the action of the fair. Keep an eye out for these talented students as you wander the grounds.



## Broadway's Rock of Ages Masterclass

**Thursday, September 12**

**1:00 p.m. – Grandstand Stage**

On the day of the Broadway's Rock of Ages show at the Grandstand, high school and college theater and music students are invited to join a member of the band for a Q&A session. After the session, students can stay and watch the band's soundcheck for the evening show. **Sponsored by Bank of the Plains.**

Space is limited. To register your class, email [melissa.blake@ks.gov](mailto:melissa.blake@ks.gov).



# NEW EDUCATION CENTER ACTIVITIES



## Story time

Join our friends at the **Hutchinson Public Library** for a story time. - Saturdays & Sundays: 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. in the story nook at the Education Center.

## Meet a dinosaur

Become a Jurassic adventurer and make your own dinosaur headband and footprint. - Daily at noon



## Corn Stem Activity

Create a corn germination necklace to take home and watch as it sprouts. - Daily at 2:00 pm  
Courtesy of Kansas Corn

## Learn to draw

Step-by-step lessons for kids to draw their favorite farm machines and animals. Come by for a different drawing each day. - Daily at 4:00 pm



## Adopt a farm animal rock

Come create your own farm animal friend to adopt and take home. - adoptions available opening day (9/6) & closing day (9/15) from 9 am - 6:00 pm

# KIDS GAMES AND CONTESTS

## Kansas Bingo

Kids can learn more about Kansas state symbols while hoping to be first to five in a row.

- Daily at 5:00 pm in the Education Center

**Hula Hoop contest** Can you hula hoop? Kids can enter to compete for fun fair prizes daily.

- Daily at 6:00 pm in the back of the Education Center

# REGISTER TODAY

Visit [kansasstatefair.com](http://kansasstatefair.com), click on "PARTICIPATE" and go to the "EDUCATION" box to get details and registration information for all activities mentioned in this guide – plus more! We'll update our educational offerings throughout the summer.

# QUESTIONS?

Contact **Melissa Blake** at 620-669-3607 or [melissa.blake@ks.gov](mailto:melissa.blake@ks.gov) for field trip planning and questions on featured activities.

# IMPORTANT DEADLINES

## AUGUST 27

School Art registration due

## AUGUST 30

Registration deadline for Marching Bands

## SEPTEMBER 6

Last day for Field Trip Registration



Connect with Kansas Farm Bureau Agriculture Education Resources



[www.kfb.org/education](http://www.kfb.org/education)

[PINTEREST.COM/KSFARMBUREAU/AG-ED-AHEAD](https://pinterest.com/ksfarmbureau/ag-ed-ahead)