| **Indiana Dunes Education** | National Park Service  U.S. Department of the Interior  **Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore**  Education Department | National Park Service Logo |
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**Chellbergs Had a Farm**

**Summary:**

Visit a turn-of-the-century farm and participate in activities of work and play. Through this one-hour easy hike, students will be immersed in what daily life on the farm was over one-hundred years ago. A primary goal of this program is to help students develop or show a desire to care for and protect the historic buildings and farm property.

**Objectives:**

Students will be able to:

1. Describe three different farm activities from the early 1900s.
2. State why every season on a farm requires a lot of hard work.
3. Explain the importance of saving places in national parks like the Chellberg Farm and how it helps us to learn about our history.

**Setting:** Chellberg Farm is located in Porter, Indiana. This program is offered year-round except during Maple Sugar Time. Most of this easy hike is outdoors, but visits into the barn and house can be included. Restrooms and picnic shelters are available at this location near the parking lot. Other trails are available for use before or after your program



**Grade:** Pre-school through 3rd grade

**Ratio of Students to Ranger**: 30 students to 1 is ideal; Due to low staffing we will accommodate larger groups within reason with the teacher’s assistance. Please provide one adult chaperone for every ten students for safety purposes.

**Safety Issues:** The trail is easy, large and wheelchair accessible. During the fall, yellow jackets are present. The program encourages hands on participation from the students.

**Background Information**

The historic Chellberg Farm is a site within the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. The Chellberg farm is an example of the progression of human activities that took place as the Northwest Indiana area was inhabited and settled. Anders and Johanna Chellberg immigrated to Indiana from Sweden in 1863 and established their home at this site. Three generations of Chellbergs made their living on this farm. Today the farm represents the time period from 1890 throuh 1910.

The Chellbergs were a part of Porter County’s large agricultural and Swedish-American community which impacted northwest Indiana economically, socially, and culturally during this period of significance. Today’s daily farm operations (such as the special events, demonstrations, festivals, and public and school programs) enable the visitor to experience 1900s era agricultural and Swedish-American life first-hand. The Chellberg site’s resources, including its historic buildings, provide a reference for Indiana’s place in United States’ settlement and agricultural history.

**The Animals of the Chellberg Farm**

**Cattle**

The Chellberg Farm usually maintains one cow (on loan). Cattle are raised on farms for milk and meat. Some breeds are better suited for milk production (Holsteins, Jerseys, and Guernseys) and others for meat production (Herefords and Charlais). While most people know that cows give milk, not everyone is aware that cows produce milk to feed their own calves. People are able to use milk production for their own consumption. A cow can give from three to eight gallons of milk each day. Cattle used for meat production are butchered at about 1,000 pounds—a weight usually achieved by 18-20 months of age. A cow's normal life span is approximately 15 years.

**Swine**

The swine are the most intelligent of farm animals. They are raised primarily for meat but also provide bristles for brushes, hides, and lard. Virtually every part is usable. Since swine perspire only through their 

noses, they will coat themselves with mud to insulate their bodies from the summer’s heat. They do not have a heavy coat of winter hair like most animals because their fat keeps them warm.

Swine have both upper and lower teeth. They scoop their food, which is primarily corn. The adult female is a *gilt* until she farrows or has a litter of piglets; she is then called a *sow*. Gestation is three months, three weeks, and three days. A litter contains eight to fifteen piglets, and the mother has from eight to sixteen teats. Piglets weigh about two pounds at birth and gain about 1.25 pounds a day. They are weaned when they are about ten weeks old. At seven months, they are ready for market. A *boar* is an adult fertile male; a *barrow* is a castrated male Their life span is seven years.

**Horses**

The Chellberg Farm usually has two to three draft horses. These draft horses are used to pull the stone boats, hay wagons, binder, and other farm equipment. Draft horses weigh approximately 1,600 pounds.

A female horse is a *mare*, a fertile male is a *stallion*, and a castrated male is a *gelding*. A mare usually has one *foal* at a time, and her gestation period is 336 days. A male foal is a *colt* and a female foal is a *filly*. Horses live approximately 30 years.

The most common seen draft horse breed in the 1880s was the *Percheron*. This breed ranges in color from solid black to white, with many dapple-gray. As the Percheron ages, the gray becomes more predominate and changes to almost white.

**Chickens**

The Chellberg Farm has Rhode Island Red Chickens. Chickens are raised for meat and eggs. A hen can lay over 300 eggs a year. Eggs are laid whether or not they are fertile. A fertile egg will hatch in 21 days. Chickens live approximately three years.Minnie Chellberg raised the chickens; and according to oral history, she took tender care of them. She generally kept two dozen Rhode Island.

Reds and Plymouth Rocks. She fed them twice a day in wooden troughs and gave them warm water in the winter to encourage better laying. She kept baby chicks in the house.

Geese

Geese are large waterfowl. They have heavier bodies, longer necks, and their bills are thick at the base. The Chellbergs raised geese for both meat and feathers. They plucked breast feathers in the spring to fill their beds and pillows. Throughout the year, they picked up loose feathers that they found around the farm.

**About the Farm House**

The National Park Service renovated the farmhouse in the years 1987 to 1989, restoring it to its general 1900s era appearance.

The original wood house was destroyed by fire on December 16, 1884. The new house, which was constructed upon the same site and used the same cellar as the original farmhouse, was constructed of brick. Andrew J. Lundquist, a local farmer and friend, built the brick farmhouse in 1885. The use of brick for the new house was an attempt to prevent another fire.

The house was wired for electricity in 1919. A porch was added to the side of the farmhouse near the windmill to store the generator and batteries. The entire house and barn were wired for lights. A few outlets were installed for appliances. However, within a few years, the generator was out of service. Eectricity was not restored in the house until the 1930s. The family did their laundry in the kitchen.

The parlor, bedroom, and kitchen have all been furnished to portray a typical Northwest Indiana farmhouse of the 1895 to 1905 period. The parlor and bedroom is furnished partially with antiques. The kitchen is furnished primarily with modern materials of 1900s era style so that the room can be used for cooking and baking.

The Farm’s Gardens

Although food was available in stores, most farmers relied on their gardens as a source of food. Therefore, the planting, maintaining, and harvesting of garden produce was an important part of 1900s era farm life. Today, the large garden is planted with heirloom varieties of vegetables such as pole beans, pumpkins, cabbage, beets, sweet potatoes, watermelon, onions, peppers, carrots, squash, tomatoes, lima beans, lettuce, peas, radishes, corn, cucumbers, and turnips—vegetables that were commonly available to the 1890s era Northwest Indiana farmer.

**Barn**

The barn was built in the 1870s using an American style—mortise and tenon joints secured by wooden pegs. The roof was covered with wooden cedar shake shingles. The cows were kept at the west-end of the barn; the horses were kept in the east-end where the ceiling was higher; the hay was kept above the horses and was tossed down as needed. In the early 1900s, the barn was painted gray with white trim. To replicate this in 2000, the barn was painted gray with white trim, the siding and wall studs were repaired, and the roof was replaced.

**Apple Cider**

Today, apple cider is often the product of apples that would not sell as eating apples. On the old-time farm, such apples were given to the cattle. The cattle relished these “bad apples”— bruises, worms, and all. Only the choicest apples went into the cider. Such varieties as *Golden Russet*, *Sweet*, and *Snow* were grown entirely for aroma, succulence, and general goodness. They made delicious cider! How rich were the seasons of yesterday!

Today's cider is a mixture of Jonathan, Mackintosh, Red and Golden Delicious, Cortland, and a few Crab Apples for tang. A bushel and a half of apples yields one gallon of cider.

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**Prerequisite Classroom Activities**

Prior to your visit to Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, please take a moment to read through the information listed below. We suggest that you do one or more of the described activities with your class in order to prepare them for the lessons and experiences they will have during their field trip. A list of vocabulary words has been provided to prepare students for their visit to the farm. If there is a special topic or area that you want the ranger to cover during the presentation, please contact the park’s scheduling office. Every effort will be made to accommodate your request.

**Activity 1:** Have the students make a list of all the things in their house which comes from a farm. Remind them that food is not the only thing from a farm; consider products such as cotton, wool, and ink.

**Activity 2:** Teach the class to make butter. Put whipping cream into a baby food jar and shake it until it separates (about 4-5 minutes). Remove the solid, yellow ball of fat and wash it in cold water to firm it up. Kneed a pinch of salt into each ball of butter. Show children a picture of a wooden churn to help them picture how it was done in the past.

**Activity 3:** Sing “Old MacDonald Had A Farm” substituting “Mr. Chellberg” for “Old MacDonald”. Be sure to include all the animals seen at the Chelberg Farm in the verses.

**Activity 4:** Have the students, individually or in teams, make a collage of a modern farm using magazine or other pictures. Ask them to predict what modern tools will not be present at Chellberg Farm.

**Activity 5:** Read a story about a famous person who was once a farmer or helped farmers. Example: Thomas Jefferson, George Washington Carver, John Deere, Cyrus McCormick.

**Activity 6:** Have the students write a story about being a farmer.

**Activity 7:** (For older students) Learn about Swedish farms and customs. Why did the Chellbergs immigrate here from Sweden? What would a trip across the ocean for four months have been like in the 1800s?

**Vocabulary**

**GARDEN** – a plot of ground where herbs, fruits, flowers, or vegetables are grown

**FARM** – a piece of land used for growing crops or raising livestock

**IMMIGRANT** – a person who comes to a country to live there

**HISTORY** – a written record of important events and their causes / a branch of knowledge that records and explains past events

**DAIRY** – a place where milk is kept and butter or cheese is made / a farm devoted to the production of milk

**CHORES** – the regular light work of a household or farm / an ordinary task / dull, unpleasant, or difficult task

**STONEBOAT** - wooden sled pulled by livestock and used to haul stones or heavy objects

**Follow up Activity**

Class reflection paper or writing sample

Ask each student to write a short essay, letter, or story about what they learned on their field trip to Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. Rangers love receiving mail from their students. Send the ranger the packet of essays from your class (or a copy of them), and your ranger will send your class a certificate from the dunes. Send your essays to: Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, 1100 N. Mineral Springs Road, Porter, IN 46304, Attn: Your ranger’s name or just Education Department

If you are using this essay as a class assignment for a grade, we would like to suggest that each essay contain the following elements. **Use the rubric below to score them.**

* The name of the park and the location of their field trip, for example: Douglas Center, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore.
* Three facts they learned on the field trip about life on a turn of the century farm.
* A brief explanation of why Indiana Dunes is unique and therefore a national park.
* At least two things the student can do to help take care of his or her national park.
* Fill in the blank of this statement and provide an explanation: I would like to learn more about \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ at Indiana Dunes.

**Assessment:**

**Grading for Class reflection writing assignment:**

1. **Writing and organization-** ***4 points*** the writing sample is very well written and organized by the elements provided. It has a strong introduction, middle and conclusion. ***3 points*** the writing sample is well written and organized by the elements provided. It includes an introduction, middle and conclusion. ***2 points*** the writing sample is choppy and is not well organized. It lacks an introduction or conclusion. ***1 point***the writing sample is very short and unorganized.
2. **Grammar & Spelling-** ***4 points*** Mistakes in spelling and grammar are minor or non-existent. ***3 points*** Mistakes in spelling and grammar are minimal—about 4-5. ***2 points*** mistakes in spelling and grammar are numerous—5-10. ***1 point*** mistakes in spelling and grammar are more than 10.
3. **Facts and content-** ***4 points*** the writing sample demonstrates the student’s learning on the dunes program and includes three or more facts provided by the park staff. ***3 points*** the writing sample demonstrates the student’s learning and includes only two facts provided by the park staff. ***2 points*** the writing sample does not demonstrate much learning and only includes one fact provided by the park staff.***1 point*** the writing sample does not demonstrate any learning and does not include any facts provided by the park staff.
4. **National Park Service theme** - ***4 points*** the writing sample clearly demonstrates the student’s understanding of the role of the NPS in preserving the dunes by explaining why Indiana Dunes is such a unique treasure.***3 points*** the writing sample mentions the NPS and its role in preserving the Indiana Dunes. ***2 points*** the writing sample mentions the NPS and Indiana Dunes. ***1 point*** the writing sample does not mention anything about the NPS or its role at Indiana Dunes.
5. **Stewardship**- ***4 points*** the writing sample lists three things the student can do to assist in taking care of the Indiana Dunes. ***3 points*** the writing sample lists two things the student can do to assist in taking care of the Indiana Dunes. ***2 points*** the writing sample lists one thing the student can do to assist in taking care of the Indiana Dunes. ***1 point*** the writing sample does not list anything about what the student can do to take care of the Indiana Dunes.

**Illinois Content Standards**

The *Chellbergs Had A Farm* program can assist teachers in meeting the following Illinois standards in social studies.

**State Goal 15:** Understand economic systems, with an emphasis on the United States.

*Understand that scarcity necessitates choices by consumers.*

**15.B.1**  Explain why consumers must make choices.

*Understand that scarcity necessitates choices by producers*.

**15.C.1a** Describe how human, natural and capital resources are used to produce goods and services.

**15.C.1b** Identify limitations in resources that force producers to make choices about what to produce.

**State Goal 16:** Understand events, trends, individuals and movements shaping the history of Illinois, the United States and other nations.

*Understand the development of economic systems.*

**16.C.1a** Identify how people and groups in the past made economic choices (e.g. crops to plant, products to make, products to trade) to survive and improve their lives.

*Understand Illinois, United States and world environmental history.*

**16.E.1** Describe how the local environment has changed over time.

**State Goal 17:**  Understand world geography and the effects of geography on society, with an emphasis on the United States.

*Understand relationships between geographic factors and society.*

**17.C.1a** Identify ways people depend on and interact with the physical environment (e.g. farming, fishing, hydroelectric power).

**17.C.1b** Identify opportunities and constraints of the physical environment.

**17.C.1c** Explain the difference between renewable and nonrenewable resour