THE INSTITUTE AT RENFREW

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Program Overview and Pre-trip Information

Cultural History School Programs — Kindergarten and Grade 1

ONCE UPON A FARM

In **Once Upon A Farm**, young children are introduced to farmstead life of the early 1800s in this program, the first in a series about the Pennsylvania German culture of our region.

Students learn that people of the past needed food, clothing and shelter, as well as a little fun—just like today!
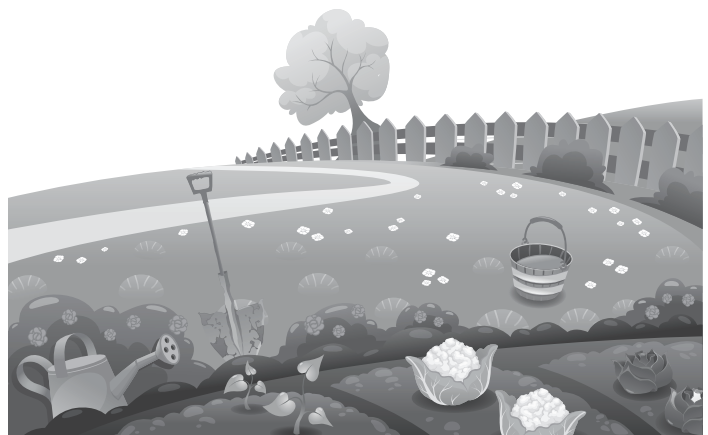
An instructor dressed in period clothing greets the children. After an introduction in a historic building on the property, the class moves to the yard of the Royer or Fahnestock farmhouse. There they participate in a variety of hands-on activities, such as Pennsylvania German dress-up, sewing, and a chore and game station.

Throughout the program the children learn nursery rhymes, which connect them to the activity at hand. The experience concludes with a story about a little girl and her favorite quilt.

We will also supply a vocabulary list, and may include links to YouTube videos, which you may find helpful as you prepare for your trip.

Please bring 3 to 4 adult helpers in addition to the classroom teacher.

ONCE UPON A FARM
Vocabulary

Basic needs – food, water, shelter, clothing, fun

Chores – jobs, work

Clothing – shift, nightgown, skirt, apron, scarf, pants, shirt, handkerchief, work apron

Pennsylvania Germans – people with at least one family member who emigrated to this country from the Rhineland of Germany, France and Switzerland during the 1600s–1700s

Pennsylvania German Farmstead – everything involved in making up a farm, including people, animals, buildings, and landscape

Quilt – a blanket with three layers

Quilting – sewing the three layers of the blanket together

Stitch - sewing

Yarn - spun thread used for knitting, crocheting, weaving, or sewing