

## Tour Overview

Student will observe the life cycle of a variety of pumpkins by first viewing a DVD, *Pumpkin Circle: The Story of a Garden* produced by Informed Democracy. The DVD tells the story of the cycle of nature in a pumpkin patch. This non-fiction depiction of life in the patch shows the changes through the seasons.

Following the viewing, a guide will conduct a brief question and answer session about the life of the pumpkin in the pumpkin patch.

K-2: The discussion will be centered on review of the stages of the pumpkin life cycle.  
3-4<sup>th</sup>: The emphasis during the discussion will be on comparison and contrast of the life cycle of the pumpkin with that of other living organisms and/or plants.

Students will have the opportunity to interact with livestock such as goats, cows, chickens and turkeys which are part of a typical Kansas farm.

Students will be taken to the actual pumpkin patch. Students will develop an understanding of how pumpkins live in the pumpkin patch environment in which their needs can be met.

## Tour Educational Objectives

This educational tour will help your students meet the following curriculum standards set forth by the Kansas State Board of Education.

### **STANDARD 3: LIFE SCIENCE Grades K-2**

**LIFE SCIENCE – The student will begin to develop an understanding of biological concepts.**

**Benchmark 1: The student will develop an understanding of the characteristics of living things.**

**Indicators:**

- (1) The student discusses that *organisms* live only in *environments* in which their needs can be met.
- (2) The student observes *life cycles* of different living things.
- (3) The student observes living things in various *environments*.
- (4) The student examines the *structures/parts* of living things.

### **STANDARD 3: LIFE SCIENCE Grades 3-4**

**LIFE SCIENCE – The student will develop an understanding of biological concepts through direct experience with living things, their life cycles, and their habitats.**

**Benchmark 1: The student will develop knowledge of organisms in their environment.**

- (1) The student observes different organisms and compares and contrasts how similar functions are served by different structural characteristics.
- (2) The student compares basic needs of different organisms in their environment.

