Jr. Leader Education Trip

Every other year the River Valley District organizes a four-day, Jr. Leader Education Trip. The Trip is open to 4-H’ers within the River Valley District who have completed 8th grade through 4-H age 18. The 4-H’ers must also be enrolled and actively participating in the Leadership Project. A group of 4-H’ers from throughout the District are selected to help choose the city and find educational activities within or around this city.

This year, forty-five 4-H members and six chaperones embarked on the Jr. Leader Education Trip to Milwaukee, Wisconsin on Tuesday, August 6th. Susan Mattila, 4-H Program Manager, in the Washington Extension Office and four 4-H’ers from around the District planned and organized the trip. The group found several educational activities and sites for 4-H’ers to visit while in Milwaukee.

Some highlights from the first full day in Milwaukee included, touring Jones Island Wastewater Treatment Plant. 4-H’ers learned how the City treats wastewater and returns it to Lake Michigan. They also learned about the different education levels and careers the treatment plant employees. Many 4-H’ers were excited to tour the Original Cheesehead Factory and some even met the owner and creator. Our group gained a new perspective on the City by taking a boat tour on the Milwaukee Boat Line where we learned about the City’s rich history. The first day ended with 4-H’ers working together at City 13 Escape Room. We are excited to report everyone successfully escaped!

Highlights from our second day included, touring Clock Shadow Cheese Factory and tasting some of the freshly made cheese and cheese curds. We were able to visit Discovery World which focused on science, technology, engineering, and math. The day ended with 4-H’ers exploring the Harley Davidson Museum and learning about the Company’s vast history. Our last day was mostly spent traveling, but we were able to stop in Waterloo, Iowa to tour the John Deere Museum. Specifically, 4-H’ers learned about the John Deere Tractor and the history of the Company.

Our River Valley District 4-H’ers had a very full and educational trip. Our chaperones received many compliments about the behavior and respect our 4-H’ers exhibited on the trip. If you are interested in learning more about 4-H or our Junior Leader Education Trip, please contact your local Extension Office. Contact Jordan Schuette at 785-527-5084 or jschuette@ksu.edu to learn more about 4-H in the River Valley District.

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