



Learning at Home

October 2008

Reinbow Stables

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SDHSA kids and parents got to see tons of horses from Arabian horses to miniature horses. The group also heard a lot of facts on this fun, late-summer tour!

Reinbow stables, at the Eastern edge of Sioux Falls, is home to 37 horses, 24 of whom stay in indoor stables overnight. Our tour guide, Amber (?), showed the group inside the stables, the area where the horses run, and the general grounds of Reinbow Stables.

The oldest horses they have are 32 & 22, with the average lifespan of a horse being 25-35 years. Among the facts we heard -- horses only sleep one hour per day.

Everyone was given the opportunity to pet a variety of horses. The group also saw the food that the horses eat, were able to see a horseshoe and a trimmed-off portion of a hoof.

Tour at Hoversten Orchard

The group had an informative tour at Hoversten Orchard. Pat, the owner, took the group out to the orchards. He talked about the variety of apples and the many apples they have there. Each child picked 3 apples that they were able to take home. Below to the right is picture of a few of the kids with their apples. After the kids picked their apples, we went into the facility where the apples are washed and pressed to make cider. Pat had a box of apples so the group was able to see the washing machine in action. Pat also explained how the cider press works. The group then was given a treat of the cider. Many had a few glasses.

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Some interesting facts: Pat said they planted their first trees 21 years ago and have been open to the public for about 15 years. They currently have 25 acres, 15 acres is currently in use. They sell about 20 varieties of apples.

Hoversten Orchard Website: <http://www.hoverstenorchard.com>

Kid Get to Know

Article on
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October Birthdays

Welcome to our new SDHSA Members
Names on
Secure SDHSA Site

If you have any gently used craft
supplies that you would like to
donate to SDHSA please email
gina@sdhsa.org.

Names on
Secure
SDHSA
Site

And thanks to the families who
have renewed!

Thanks.

Tuesdays Starting Now

Bowden Youth Center has generously agreed to allow our use of their facility, free of charge, for a third academic year. Our official days for Gym Time at Bowden will be the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month, and on those days, our new Craft Coordinator, Gina, will provide craft activities for the kids to enjoy.

Gym-tastic Tuesday at All American Gymnastics is a new activity for our group, and will occur the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Their gym, which includes inflatables, gymnastics equipment, in-ground trampolines, and foam safety pits will be available for our use. The cost will be \$3 per child, walking and up. Parents play for free!

Open Play at Backyard Adventures is scheduled for the 4th Tuesday of each month. Last year, the kids really enjoyed running off steam on all their great play sets. The cost is \$4 per child, ages two and up. Parents play for free!

There are two months, December and March, in which there is a 5th Tuesday. On those Tuesday afternoons, we are scheduling a free class at the Outdoor Campus.

SDHSA members who are not interested in going to the alternate Tuesday activities at All American Gymnastics, Backyard Adventures, or The Outdoor Campus are welcome to use the gymnasium at Bowden Youth Center on those Tuesdays. Angie, our Gym Coordinator, will be on hand with her great ideas for play and games on most Tuesdays.

All activities will begin at 1:30 p.m., and will start in October. More information will be sent as the dates approach. You can also see our month at a glance on either the SDHSA website calendar or the Yahoo Group calendar .

These activities have been arranged by the SDHSA for families who are official members of our organization. For more information on how to join the South Dakota Home School Association, please visit our website: www.sdhsa.org.

Rake the Town Oct 24th

The next volunteer activity for SDHSA is, Rake the Town is the annual rake-a-thon, coordinated through Workers on Wheels at the Center for Active Generations.

We will be participating October 24th (Friday). We will be given a yard to rake. They will provide bags and pickup the leaves. All we need to do is to rake and bag them. If you have a rake to bring that would be great! We will find out on the 24th the address of the home we will be raking. The group will meet there at 2pm.

A poll will be set up on the yahoo group the first week in October if you'd like to volunteer. If you have any questions please email: becky@sdhsa.org.

2008-09 Geography Bee

The Greater Sioux Falls Home School Association will be hosting the 2008-2009 Geography Bee. This bee, which is part of the National Geographic Bee, is open to children in grades 4-8 who are exclusively home schooled. The questions for the bee are provided by the National Geographic Society and the winner of each local bee has the chance to qualify for the state geography bee which will be held in Spring 2009.

The geography bee will be held on Tuesday, December 2, at 1:30 p.m. at the Ronning Library conference room with Julie Christian as the moderator. Each student is asked to contribute \$5 towards the cost of the registration fee and this can be paid the day of the bee. Please contact Julie McLaughlin at mclaughlin28@sio.midco.net or 336-3859 to sign-up or if you have any questions. Julie needs to know the name and grade of those interested in participating.

The deadline for registration is Friday, Nov. 21.

Sewer Plant Tour

The Sioux Falls sewer plant treats all the water that leaves your house and every house and business in Sioux Falls. That means treating approximately 14 million gallons of water each day.

Photo on
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When waste water leaves your house it travels down your pipes and through pipes buried in the street. It eventually makes its way to the sewer plant. The first process to cleaning this waste water is to just let it sit and let the "heavies" settle to the bottom.

The heavies or "sludge" is swept out of the clarifier over to some round brick containers where anaerobic bacteria eat up most of the solids. What is left is pumped into special trucks that drill it into farm land because it is full on nutrients that are good for the soil.

The waste water is carried by gravity to one of the many trickler filters where the waste water is sprayed over rock. The water travels down 16' of algae-infested rock. In this biological process the algae that are growing on the rocks eat up the waste that is in the water as it drips over the rocks. These "bins" are covered year round so the spraying water doesn't freeze in the winter.

From here, the water goes over to a set of open tanks where bacteria in the water eat the ammonia in the waste water. The water looks black because of all the bacteria doing their job, but in fact the water, at this point, is already very clean.

From here the water gets filtered once more in another set of huge holding tanks. These tanks are just like the ones used at the water purification plant. From here the water goes over to another holding tank, which looks more like a water maze, for the chemical process of water purification. Chlorine is added to the water at the beginning of the maze to help sanitize the water and slowly taken out as the water moves along. By the end of the maze the chlorine has been removed from the water because, if left in, it wouldn't be safe for wildlife to drink. After this, the water is carried to the outfall cascade or "waterfall". This process is necessary to add oxygen back into the water before it flows back into the river, which is located just feet from the waterfall. At this point the water is not drinkable, but it is actually cleaner than river water. This whole process takes up to 19 hours.

The group learned a lot from the tour. As you can see from the above photo it didn't smell great!



October 2008

Please note some activities have an additional fee or may have a minimum age—please see online for full information

Contact:

questions@sdhsa.org

All messages will be returned by a SDHSA Leader

Web Site:

<http://www.sdhsa.org>

Address:

SDHSA of Sioux Falls
P.O. Box 882
Sioux Falls, SD 57101

Yahoo Group:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SDHSA>

Treasurer: Crystal

crystal@sdhsa.org

Tours: Penny

penny@sdhsa.org

Newsletter/Volunteerism: Becky

becky@sdhsa.org

Website: Melissa

melissa@sdhsa.org

Administrative Support: Tamara

tamara@sdhsa.org

Gym: Angie

angie@sdhsa.org

Special Activities: Christina

Christina@sdhsa.org

Box Tops/Campbells/Lids: Karin

karin@sdhsa.org

Crafts: Gina

gina@sdhsa.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 1:30pm Swimming at Family Wellness	4 6:30p Corn Maze Meet-Up
5	6	7 1:30p Gym or Park	8 3pm Trail Walk At Arrow- head Park	9 6:30p Dine, Plan, & Chat	10	11
12	13 2:30p Neel's Goat Farm Tour	14 1:30p Gym-tastic Tuesday at All American Gymnastics	15	16	17	18 7:40&7:50p Halloween Hike at the Outdoor Campus
19 1pm-5pm SDHSA Picture Day	20	21 1:30p Gym or Park	22	23	24 2pm Rake the Town	25
26	27	28 1:30p Open Play at Backyard Adventures	29	30 2:30p Dakota Let- tering Tour	31 12p Halloween Party at Bowden	

Dine, Plan, & Chat

Did you wonder when leaders meet to discuss upcoming events? We meet the 2nd Thursday of the month. We invite you to come and have dinner with SDHSA leaders, and give your two cents as activities are planned. This is also an opportunity for general homeschooling chat and whatever else happens to come up!

October 9th at 6:30pm in the Empire Mall at the Food Court.

Please bring the Box Tops, Land O' Lake Lids, or Campbell's labels to any SDHSA event in a bag with your last name on it and give it to Karin or a leader. Thanks!

To submit something for the newsletter such as: a recipe, artwork, poems, or accomplishments for your kid(s) please contact: becky@sdhsa.org

Please send any newsletter submission to becky@sdhsa.org by October 20th so it can be included in the next newsletter

If you take photos at a SDHSA event please send them to photos@sdhsa.org so they may be shared with the group



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Contact me for more information.

Sheryl Johnson,
Tastefully Simple Independent Consultant
(605)362-9663, sherylj@sio.midco.net
www.tastefullysimple.com/web/sjohnson

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<http://www.sdhsa.org/Misc/Ads.html>

If you have any questions please contact:
becky@sdhsa.org

I have 1 box of misc. girls clothing approx. size 7/8 mostly shirts, pants, and some hats/ mittens to give away.

Penny #594-3027
peshcale@alliancecom.net

I have 1 box of misc. boys clothing approx. size 7/8 including socks, underwear, shirts, and pants to give away.

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