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Clemson University Outdoor Education Trail offers tours full of fun and learning

By MORNING NEWS STAFF REPORTS

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October is a time for fun and learning for students taking part in the annual fall school tours at the Clemson University Outdoor Education Trail at the Clemson Pee Dee Research and Education Center.

The tours are held by Clemson and the S.C. Farm Bureau Federation. They are available to students in the first through fifth grades.

The program features the Clemson Corn Maze. Students learn about plants, how they grow and the benefits they provide to people and nature.

Students also view educational displays on the different crops grown in South Carolina, how weather affects crops, and the importance of wildlife and habitat to the farmer.

“The tours are tailored to each grade level,” Clemson Trail coordinator Dr. Jim Frederick said in a press release. “We focus on topics related to agriculture, natural resources and the environment that support and enhance the South Carolina teaching standards. Although the fall school tours filled up quickly this year, additional tours will be offered in the spring.”

The public also can tour the trail during the Rural Heritage Celebration slated for April 25. This festival highlights traditional and locally produced food products, crop exhibits, hands-on activities for children, farm equipment displays, story-telling, heirloom artisans, outdoor sports, Native American culture, music and the environmental learning centers on the Outdoor Education Trail.

More details about the programs conducted at the Clemson Outdoor Education Center is available on the trail's Web site, http://www.clemson.edu/oet.