

Program Summary

All of us at the Orchard are very excited to offer a new 3-hour program (including time for lunch) for all area schools. Groups can also choose to participate in a subset of the available segments if time is limited.

Our school programs meet the NEW North Carolina Essential Standards for social studies, science, and music for elementary and middle school learners.

We've also partnered with the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation's Kids in Parks program, so there'll be additional interactive materials to take back to school. Your visit will include the following activities (approx. 30 minutes each):

- A storytelling **HAYRIDE**
- An inquiry lesson on the importance of **POLLINATORS** (Honey Bees OR Monarch Butterflies)
- A hands-on **APPLES** experience
- **MUSIC AND DANCING!**

About The Orchard

The Orchard was established more than a century ago by the Holston Land Company, an arm of the Clinchfield Railroad. In a good year, this award-winning orchard produced 125,000 bushels of apples. In the late 1930's the Blue Ridge Parkway took a narrow strip of land through the heart of the Orchard. The current Orchard, with its 2,500 apple trees, remains active and yields 7,000 bushels in a productive year.

In 1995 Katherine Trubey purchased the Orchard's 280 acres in order to preserve its beauty and unobstructed views. Eventually the portion of the land above the Parkway was sold to the Blue Ridge Parkway Foundation for preservation in perpetuity. In 2002 a nonprofit organization, the Altapass Foundation, Inc., was established to oversee the natural, cultural, and historical preservation projects at the Orchard at Altapass.

The **mission** of The Altapass Foundation, Inc. is to: **Preserve** the history, heritage, and culture of the southern region of the Blue Ridge; **Protect** the Orchard land with its apples, wetlands, butterflies, and other natural features; and **Involve** the public in the unique Appalachian Regional experience.



1025 Orchard Rd
Spruce Pine, NC 28777
1-888-765-9531



The Orchard at Altapass



School Programs

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Saving the Good Stuff

Toll Free: 888-765-9531
amyw@altapassfoundation.org

*the Altapass Foundation, Inc.
is a 501(c)(3) public charity*



► Program Segments

Below are short descriptions of the individual program segments. Please contact us for more information.

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A storytelling **HAYRIDE** detailing the history of Altapass, including the OverMountain Men and the Battle of King's Mountain, the arrival of the Clinchfield Railroad, Charlie McKinney (for whom McKinney Pass is named), and more...

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An inquiry lesson on **POLLINATORS** (Bees *OR* Monarch Butterflies) and their importance to the Orchard, animals, and humans. Students will observe pollinators, play a pollinator game, and use science gear.

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APPLES...YUM! Students will select, core, peel, and eat an apple and enjoy a cup of apple cider.

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MUSIC AND DANCING! Students will enjoy some toe-tapping bluegrass from our favorite local musicians. They'll also learn about the traditional instruments played in the Appalachian Mountains.

► Administrative

Cost is \$6 per student and FREE to teachers, assistants, and bus drivers. Bring a picnic lunch and eat out at our covered pavilion.

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In case of bad weather, storytelling will take place in the covered pavilion, or, in case of lightning, inside the main building.

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All facilities and programs are handicapped accessible.

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We request that you notify us of a cancellation 10 days in advance of the scheduled visit.

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Please notify the Orchard staff of any student allergies or health conditions so we can ensure that every student thoroughly enjoys the experience.

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Call 888-765-9531 (toll free) to schedule your field experience!

