

SENSORY-FRIENDLY PLACES & ACTIVITIES



Sensory-Friendly Locations Available August 13-23

Can't join us for Sensory-Friendly Morning on Wednesday, August 19?

We welcome guests with sensory processing needs on any day! The sensory-friendly places listed here are available throughout the Fair - we hope this list helps you plan ahead for a wonderful visit to the Iowa State Fair.

IowaStateFair

NOTHING
COMPARES

For a complete list of daily activities, visit iowastatefair.org or scan this QR code!



- 9 AM **1** Little Hands on the Farm
- 9 AM **2** Animal Learning Center
- 9 AM **3** Sensory Walk
- 9 AM **4** The Garden
- 9 AM **5** DNR Courtyard
- 9 AM **6** Variety Star Playground
- 9 AM **7** Discovery Garden
- 9 AM **8** Barn Education Areas

The listed activities in this guide are available for all Fairgoers.



1. Little Hands on the Farm

Follow the path that includes the garden, grain bin, apple orchard, chicken coop, tractor shed, sheep barn and more. Keep busy with "Walk Like an Animal" and "Animal Yoga" signs along the way. For all your hard work, grab a piece of fruit, a granola bar or ice cream at the Grocery store, the last stop. The best time to enjoy this activity for those with sensory needs is early in the day to beat the crowd.

2. Animal Learning Center

Visit all the mommas and babies in the Animal Learning Center. See the ducks, goats, cows, baby chicks and piglets in this air-conditioned building.

3. Sensory Walk

Follow the directions on the colorful sidewalk pathway in Kids' Zone. Hop once or take a rest and see the Fairgrounds come to life.

4. The Garden

The Garden features fruit trees, vegetable gardens, the history of corn display, soybeans, cover crops and a composting display. "I Picked" at the Garden will happen from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. each morning. Come help pick vegetables for the Food Bank of Iowa.

5. DNR Courtyard

At this quiet area located outside the DNR Building, sit next to the pond and watch wildlife interact with one another. The DNR Building features several aquariums, educational displays, touch and feel stations and presentations about the Iowa outdoors. Catch educational and exciting shows, trivia and more at the DNR Courtyard Stage, too!

6. Variety Star Playground

Get ready to play! The Variety Star Playground, located in Hy-Vee Fun Forest, has an agricultural theme with farm animals, complete with an accessible ramp and smooth, easy-to-navigate surface. It's a space where children of all abilities can play!

7. Discovery Garden

A little bit of quiet and a lot of green, beautiful flowers and native plants to Iowa can be found along with a walking bridge and fish pond. It's a shaded place to sit and reset.

8. Barn Education Areas

At Cattle Corner, learn more about beef and dairy cattle in Iowa, feel different feeds, take pictures as farmers and so much more.

In Horse Haven, learn how to braid a horse's tail, put a horse puzzle together or take a seat and color a horse-themed coloring page.

Visit the Sheep Stop to feel wool from sheep, color a sheep-shaped chalk board or take your picture with a grand champion sheep.

We have a calming room available throughout the Fair where families can stop to enjoy a quieter atmosphere in an air-conditioned space. The calming room is located in the Robert G. Horner and Sheri Avis Horner Service Center from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. daily. Please note: This room will only be staffed by ChildServe Occupational Therapists on Wednesday, August 19 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

FAIR TIPS

Kid Find: Make sure everyone in your group is accounted for with Kid Find Wristbands. Go to the nearest information booth, the Public Safety Building, East Marketplace or the Star 102.5 booth on the Grand Concourse to get a wristband.

Food/Drink Policy: Outside food and drink are allowed on the grounds during the Fair. If perishables or medications need to stay cool, small coolers are permissible.

Parking: On-grounds parking is available off University Ave. In order to park everyone safely, the line to get into the parking lot sometimes moves slow. Please plan accordingly.

? Questions about the Sensory-Friendly places and activities at the Fair? Email Emily Wynn at ewynn@iowastatefair.org.

