



## Introducing Rain, Hayne & Shine

**Location:** 490 Stumpy Gully Rd, Balnarring VIC

Rain Hayne & Shine is a children's farm offering a fun family farmyard experience. It is a fun site for birthday parties and family entertainment. It provides an educational 'hands on' experience with a large variety of friendly farm animals.

Within the Farmyard you will have the opportunity to:

- Feed and cuddle a variety of baby animals
- Ride on a tractor or Pony
- Play on the playground
- Enjoy a BBQ or Picnic
- Relax on the hay bales
- And for the parents, enjoy a free cuppa.



## Entry Fee

(No EFTPOS available)

As you enter the Farmyard, there will be a pay area where the friendly staff will greet you. If staff members are busy, you may need to ring the bell next to the sign.

Adults: \$6  
Children 1 & 2 years: \$6  
Children 3 years & over: \$12  
Under 1yr: Free  
Family entry (2 adults/3 kids): \$40

## Preparing for your visit

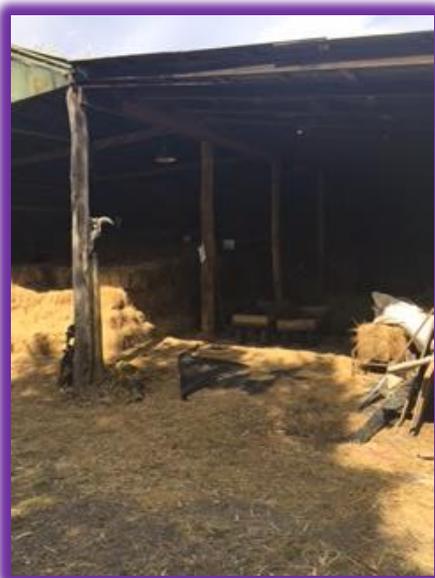
Before visiting the Rain, Hayne & Shine Farmyard we would recommend that you and your family complete the following:

- Read the Social Story prepared by Sprout to familiarise your children with what to expect when you visit.
- Look at the map with your child and talk about what activities you would like to do when you get there.
- Print out the Visuals prepared by Sprout and pack them.
- Take a picture of your child in what they are wearing the morning of your visit in case they become lost.
- Dress your children in bright clothes so they are easy to keep track of.
- Pack a bag with a few essentials: sunscreen, water bottle, snacks, blanket, activities for the car, calming items if previously used by your child.
- Have your children wear a bracelet with their name and your mobile number on it in the event they become lost.

## Petting Barn

There are some areas in the Farmyard that some children will find over stimulating or frightening. One particular area which may be overwhelming for many children is the Petting Barn.

- The Petting Barn has a lot of small animals (eg: chickens, ducks, rabbits, guinea pigs) that run around the Barn Floor. Some animals might follow, chase, or peck at shoes and clothes.
- As the Barn is full of animals, there is a strong odour that your child might be sensitive to.
- We would recommend that an adult walk through first to determine if you think it is appropriate for your child. Then have a chat with your child, so they know what to expect.



## Quiet time

There are several areas around the Rain, Hayne & Shine Farmyard which are ideal for having a rest or if your children need some quiet time to calm down. The Sprout Rain, Hayne & Shine Map has these areas indicated on it. We would recommend the following areas:

- In the Hay Barn
- Under the tree's in the picnic area
- In the train cafe

If your need to leave the Rain, Hayne & Shine Farmyard for a break, you can do so and re-enter as many times as you need on the same day.

## Places to go for Heavy Muscle Work or Stimulation

For many children, Heavy Muscle work can be calming for their bodies, or increase their arousal levels if they are feeling sluggish. The following activities have been identified as appropriate places to seek 'Heavy Muscle Work' input.

- The Playground/ Sandpit
- Going on a Pony Ride
- Climbing the Hay bales

You can come up with other ways to incorporate Heavy Muscle Work activities into your visit, such as:

- Animal walks or marching from one location to another.
- Pack something appropriately weighted in their backpack to carry around.
- Pack fidget or squeeze toys in their backpack.



## Accessibility

The Farmyard has a range of different terrains.

- The outside area has a combination of dirt paths and gravel. There may be some pot holes and puddles- be sure to take care when pushing wheelchairs, walking frames, and prams/ strollers.

Wheelchair access in Petting Barn:

- Entrance size accommodates wheelchair access.
- HOWEVER small animals run loose around the barn floor. This could be dangerous as small animals could get caught in the wheels.
- You can ask staff members to assist, or call ahead to inform the staff; so they can accommodate you.
- Small enclosures inside the Petting barn have a small step.

## Tips

- Call ahead and chat to the staff about your child if you have any questions or concerns prior to your visit.
- Speak to your child's Occupational Therapist before your visit if you have any specific concerns or questions about your visit.
- During the school holidays and on Public Holidays, the Rain, Hayne & Shine Farmyard can become very busy. We would recommend trying to visit during term (on a weekday if possible) to avoid the big crowds.
- Develop a strategy to help your children 'stop' in case they run ahead of you in the Farmyard. For example: stop when you blow a whistle. Practice this at home first.
- Your family will need to do a lot of walking around the farmyard. Please wear comfortable shoes and bring your child's stroller if they are likely to fatigue quickly.
- It can also get muddy on the farm, so check the weather forecast before your visit and bring a raincoat, gumboots, or pack an extra pair of shoes.
- Use the Sprout Visuals to make choices about the activities you will do.
- A timer (sand timer or timer on your phone) could be used to transition between activities.
- Before you go, plan your visit. How long do you want to stay? What activities do you want to try?