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Schools reap a look at life on the farm

Local schoolchildren will be given a taste of life 'On the Farm' when the hugely successful interactive program is taken into 16 primary schools throughout August and early September.

An initiative of The Royal Agricultural Society of WA, (RASWA) organiser of the annual IGA Perth Royal Show, the program involves more than 4000 youngsters from the age of four to 12 years old.

The program, featuring a play titled: *Inspector Pickles Investigates* and *Meet the Farmer Presentations* is designed to interact with the young audience and foster understanding about WA's important primary industries.

Pupils will get to meet *Miranda the Farmer* and learn how important farm animals are, not just to the food chain, but within science, medicine, the production of everyday items and how farming impacts upon our daily lives.

They will gain a snapshot of the technology involved in running a farming enterprise and there are a few animals to check out.

President of The RASWA, Hugh Harding says the program is a winner with the children and one that is fun as well as educational.

"It is rewarding to watch the children as the show of hands go up when asked questions about farming and the animals. They enjoy taking part in all the activities and to learn all they can about the food and where it comes from and to have the opportunity to bottle feed the lambs."

"This program enables the youngsters to understand how important the agricultural industry is to Australia giving them an insight into precision farming, technology and machinery used

– it explains and helps them to learn about the industry in a simple and easy to grasp manner - and what modern day farming is like in Western Australia,” he says.