



Slugs LOVE munching pea shoots, so I planted lettuce to save the peas.

### TYPE OF WORK

I manage the planning, growing, and maintenance of our organic Kids Farm field and "Living Playground." We educate students of all ages on science and agricultural topics.

Shannon Arnold  
**Kids Farm Coordinator**  
*Oxbow Farm and  
Conservation Center*



# Kids Farm Coordinator



**TYPICAL DAY:** My day begins with irrigation and watering starts in the greenhouse. It's hard to define a "typical" day in the life of a farmer because this career requires extreme flexibility in responding to plant needs. Projects could be anything from weeding (lots of weeding), transplanting starts, harvesting, processing, packing and providing food to hunger relief efforts, tilling the soil with a tractor, seed saving, troubleshooting pest/disease issues, etc! I may also offer educational programs to students on concepts such as food systems, nature and agriculture.

## CAREER PATHWAY:

I earned a bachelor's degree in Environmental Engineering and began my career in hazardous waste monitoring. I then transitioned into consulting mainly focused on remediation project over-site. At the time, I was still searching for my real passions in life, and made a career switch into education. I taught students science and engineering concepts using Legos. After that super fun gig, I found a opening in the education department at Oxbow. Following one fall season of assisting on the farm, I transitioned into the main farmer of the Kids Farm.



Taking campers on a hay ride!

## IMPORTANT SKILLS

basic knowledge of plants needs, a passion for food and growing, desire to learn new techniques, and grow new crop varieties.

## EDUCATION

High School Diploma

## SALARY RANGE

\$25,000-\$49,999

## TOOLS OF THE TRADE

Hand weeding tools, hoses, sprinklers, irrigation pipes, wheel and hula hoes, rakes, digging and broad forks, wire hoops and row cover, plastic flats for starts, Earthway direct seeders, walk-behind tillers, and tractors.

"My favorite moments include having someone make an ick face at the mention of a crop but take a "brave bite" and potentially find a new food they like!" -

*Shannon Arnold*

