

Kid's KOrner

Kids Participate In Ag Progress Days

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ROCKSPRING (Centre Co.)—

Not only do adults learn about new trends in agriculture at Ag Progress but also children can participate in many activities created just for them.

This year, the big attention getter was the Youth Building where homemade toys, games, puzzles, and computers were display for children to experiment with.

Bradley Hook of Lewisburg said that he likes the displays at Ag Progress. He spent a lot of time

watching Bill Metzel, the Itinerant Talesman demonstrate simple homemade toys. Metzel entertained crowds with demonstrations of his homemade dulcimer made from a cardboard box.

"This is real backyard music," Wetzel said. "It's a good way to find out if you want to play an instrument before investing in the real thing."

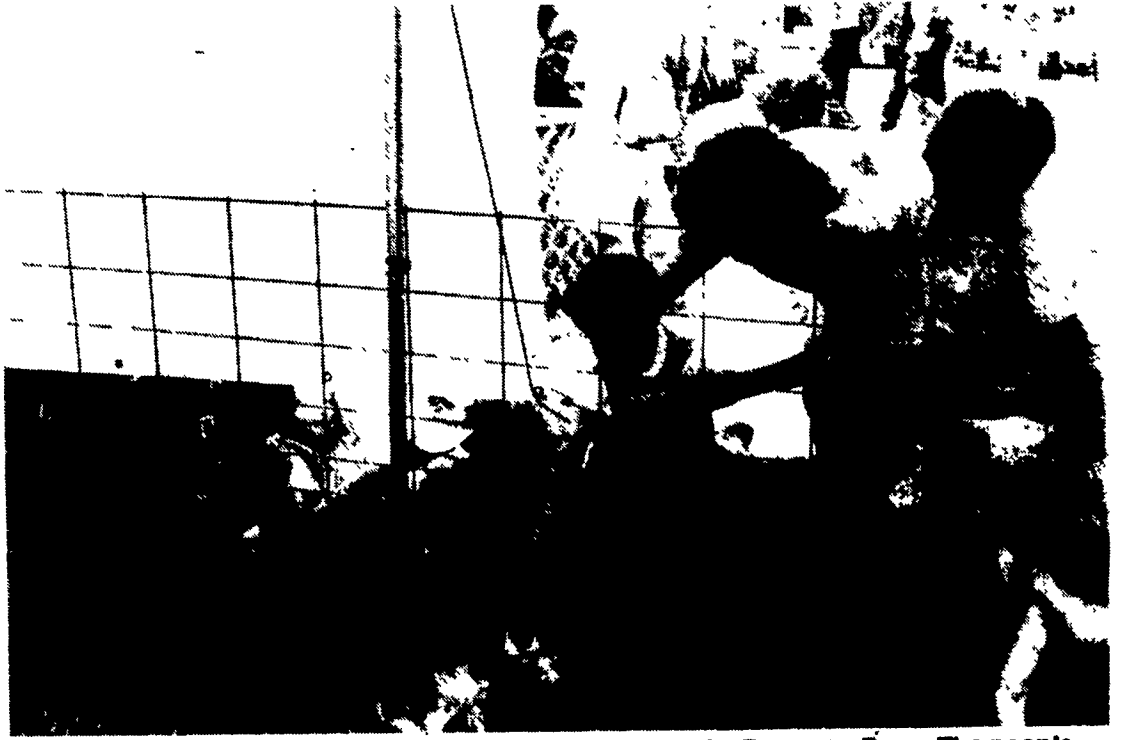
Surrounding Wetzel were tables of toys, games, and musical instruments that kids and adults alike played with.



During the computer lab, Chris Snyder, 10, learns to use a mouse to load haybales onto a wagon.



Ten-year-old Bradley Hook, son of Wayne and Tammy Hook of Lewisburg, experiments with musical instruments.



These children and adults enjoy the petting zoo at Ag Progress Days. The people who operated the activity own Happy Valley Farm, a year-around petting zoo located along Rt. 322, east of State College.

In the same building, Chris Snyder took part in a computer lab. The 10-year-old learned to use a Macintosh computer with a mouse to load hay on a wagon.

The computer classes lasted 20 minutes and Chris said that he learned a lot.

At another booth, Rachel Hilty, 10, and her sisters Joanna, 12, and Melita, 6, stuck earphones on their heads to listen to tapes that told about educational and career opportunities for women.

Children could get a close-up look at owls, hawks, turtles and snakes at the Shaver's Creek Environmental Center exhibit.

Even a petting zoo was open for children. Horse shows and, of course, climbing over the acres of tractors displayed remain favorites for children attending Ag Progress Days.

Here are some pictures of children who attended Ag Progress Days.



Rebecca Sonnen, who works for the Middle Atlantic Milk Marketing Agency, hands out a cow eraser. She also distributed tote bags with a milk promotion message, and answered questions.



Children gather around the display where William Wetzel, itinerant talesman, demonstrates toys and games from around the world. He uses storytelling, participatory activities, and demonstrations to celebrate natural and cultural heritage.



Mrs. John Hilty of Thomasville and her daughters Rachael Hilty, 10; Melita, 6; and Joanna, 12, examine the display at a booth on Women in Ag Sciences. Children put on headphones to listen to tapes of several women who found careers in untraditional fields.