

BIODIVERSITY IN THE GARDEN

Garden

2nd Grade • 30 mins • Fall • Outdoors

NEW!

GRADE 2

SCHOOL PARTNER
LESSON PLAN

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

Why is diversity in the garden important?

MATERIALS

- Yarn
- Scissors
- Seeds or transplants for fall planting

Each pair of students:

- Magnifying lens
- Watering can

For each student:

- Pencils/sharpener
- Student Journals

VOCABULARY

- Companion Plant
- Beneficial
- Diversity
- Biodiversity

ASSESSMENT

Student Journals—Student will answer reflection questions

PREPARATION

- Gather seeds for fall crops
- Measure and cut a 48-inch piece of yarn for each student
- Prepare a bed for planting

LESSON DESCRIPTION

Students consider the importance of biodiversity by observing and drawing all the life in one square foot of the garden. They then learn about companion planting, and beneficials and not-so-beneficials in the garden.



CREATED BY
DC Bilingual in 2020

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LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Students will be able to describe the diversity they find in the garden.
- Students will be able to sow seeds.
- Students will begin to understand our role as caretakers of the garden.

Content Learning Objectives*Garden Planning and Maintenance*

GPM.2.2 Understand when to plant seeds and transplant seedlings into the garden

Life Skills Learning Objectives*Personal Life Skills*

PLS.2 Students are able to express empathy and caring for themselves, others and the environment.

Community Life Skills

CLS.4 Students appreciate and are respectful of the difference and diversity in their communities.

ACADEMIC STANDARD CONNECTIONS

NGSS.LS4.D Biodiversity and Humans There are many different kinds of living things in any area, and they exist in different places on land and in water.

*Lesson Sequence**Engage***Cultivate Curiosity (5 mins):**

Gather students in a circle and explain that today they'll explore the different types of plants and animals in nature and the garden. Show them how to tie a string into a circle and place it on the ground. Ask: How many living things do you think we'd find if we looked closer? Each student will get a string to place on the ground and use a magnifying glass to observe. Review garden expectations.

*Explore***Root Around (5 mins):**

Explain students will draw pictures of each different plant or animal they find in their square. Label the living things if you know their names. Note some of the creatures might be in the soil.

*Explain***Grow Understanding (5 mins):**

Call students back together. Have volunteers share their findings. Explain that having all these different living things is called diversity. Discuss how diversity is beneficial to the things living in our garden. Explain how the plants we are planting today work together.

*Elaborate***Observe the Fruits (10 mins):**

Plant the seeds radish/carrots red clover

*Evaluate***Reflect (5 mins):**

Ask: What is diversity? How does diversity work in our garden? How does it work in your class?