

Garden Review



Topic	Achievement	Guide
Insects	Identify and explore different bugs and the purpose they serve or how they damage the garden.	What insects can you find? Are there any evidence of an insect that has come and gone?
Animals	Engage with different wildlife by indicating evidence of their presence.	Can you spot any animals on the property? Is there bird poop, holes, etc?
Cultivated	Learn what plants we eat, how they grow, and what they look like.	What did we purposefully grow here? How is it growing?
Wild	Learn about weeds, edibles, and other plants.	What is growing from nature?

Highlights

- This lesson plan can be adjusted to meet any age group by expanding the exploration portion into cooking what they find, art projects with nature, catching/looking at bugs, etc.
- The guided questions have kids **engage** with their surroundings in an **observational, thoughtful, and logical** way.
- Understanding how a garden grows and what farmers encounter while trying to keep crops alive/healthy.
- Extending the observational period with factual information on what they encountered encourages kids to make connections with what they observe.
- Hands on learning! Kids will use their hands and tools to dig, move, prune, and touch garden finds.

Teacher's Exploration

Rabbits, Squirrels, Groundhogs: Munch on plants, dig holes, and steal plants!

Birds: Peck (eating) and drop seeds.

Worms: Loosen soil and create organic waste matter for plants to grow.

Beetles: Some kill (eat) plants.

Butterflies: Pollinators!

Wild Grass: Brings bugs, steals nutrition from the soil from other plants.

Wild Parslane: Filled with Omega, great for salads. (cooking lesson)

Wild Sorrel: Lemon taste, great for pesto! (cooking lesson)

Wild Clover: Great source of pollen for the bees!

What to do?: If finding pests or unwanted wild plants, what can the group do to help? Squash bugs, spray natural bug repellents, pull weeds, etc.

