

Lesson Plan

What Grows in a Garden?

Book: *We Make a Garden*

Series: Activities We Do

Level: Scout

Objective

To help students build familiarity with the alphabet and alphabetical order by brainstorming a list of things that might grow in a garden.

Supplies

- *We Make a Garden* book
- Whiteboard

Before the Activity

Write the letters of the alphabet in three columns on the whiteboard. Then read *We Make a Garden* out loud to students.

Activity

This book mentions several things that people might grow in a garden. Ask students to raise a hand if they remember one of them. Call on several students until you get the following answers: plants, weeds, tomatoes, carrots, and berries.

Explain that these words all start with different letters. Together, the class will brainstorm more things that can grow in a garden until there is one word for each letter of the alphabet. As an example, explain that a garden might grow a flower called a narcissus. Write the word *narcissus* on the whiteboard next to the letter N. Or, a garden might grow a fruit called a quince. Write the word *quince* by the letter Q. A garden might also grow an ugli fruit. Write *ugli fruit* next to the letter U.

Then invite students to help you fill in the rest of the alphabet with flowers, fruits, vegetables, or other plants that might grow in a garden. When students think of a word, they can raise a hand. You will call on one student at a time.

Evaluation

Provide prompting and support to help the class determine if each word a student suggests can grow in a garden and if each word starts with a letter that's not already filled in. If students get stuck, provide clues to help them think of the following examples:

- a) apples/asparagus/arugula
- b) berries/blueberries/beets
- c) carrots/celery/cucumber
- d) dill/dahlia
- e) eggplant/endive
- f) flowers/food
- g) grapes/green beans/ginger
- h) herbs/habaneros/hollyhocks
- i) irises
- j) jalapeños/jicama/jackfruit
- k) kale/kohlrabi/kiwi
- l) lettuce/lavender
- m) melon/mint/mushrooms
- n) narcissus
- o) okra/onions/oregano
- p) peas/pumpkins/potatoes/parsley
- q) quince
- r) radishes/raspberries/rosemary
- s) strawberries/spinach/squash
- t) tomato/turnip/taro
- u) ugli fruit
- v) violets
- w) watermelon/wasabi/weeds
- x) [OK to skip this letter]
- y) yams/yucca
- z) zucchini/zinnias

Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational texts, grade 1 (RI 1.1), and language standards, grade 1 (L 1.2, 1.5).