

Plant Part Scavenger Hunt and Nature Journaling

Lesson Summary:

In this lesson students will explore the garden to find and identify the six edible plant parts before choosing one specific plant part to draw in detail for a nature journaling activity.

Grade Level: 3-5

Lesson Objectives:

Students will be able to:

1. Identify and classify common plant parts in the garden.
2. Draw a specific plant part in detail.
3. Describe and understand the function of each plant part.

Time Frame: 30-45 minutes

Materials:

- blank paper
- pencils
- colored pencils
- 6 plant part posters

Procedures:

1. Review posters of the six edible plant parts and ask students to walk through the garden and find an example of each of the six plant parts. Depending upon time constraints, students can either be partnered up or work individually, with each group taking responsibility for finding either all six plant parts or just one.
2. Remind students to only 'take a picture' of the plant parts with their eyes, leaving the plant intact and not bringing anything back to the group but a verbal description. Give students a few minutes to locate all six plant parts before regrouping.
3. Ask volunteers to list the examples they found of the various plant parts, referring to posters if necessary.
4. Set up nature journaling paper with students, listing location, time and date, weather, and cardinal directions.
5. Tell students that they will now choose one specific example of a plant part (either one they found on the scavenger hunt or a new choice) to draw in detail.
6. Show an example of a nature journaling drawing, discussing how to use pencil first to sketch before moving on to colored pencils. Ask students to use as much detail as possible- noticing and drawing veins on leaves, shapes of flower petals, matching colors to the actual plants, etc.



7. Give students 15-20 minutes to journal on their own, sitting near their chosen plant part.
Check in with students to help redirect and answer questions.
8. Call students together and have them share their drawings.

Assessment:

Students will:

- Correctly identify all edible plant parts.
- Understand and describe the function of each plant part during group discussion.
- Complete a detailed drawing of a plant part.

Resources:

Clare Walker Leslie, *Nature Journaling*.

NH State Science Standards:

S:LSI:4:2.1 Recognize that living organisms have certain structures and systems that perform specific functions, facilitating survival, growth and reproduction.

S:LSI:4:2.2 Identify and describe the function of the plant structures responsible for food production, water transport, support, reproduction, growth and protection.

S:SPSI:4:1.2 Make and record observations for a given purpose.

S:LSI:4:1.1 Recognize and identify the various ways in which living things can be grouped.

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