

Garden Groceries Pre-Trip Activities

To prepare your students for the investigations they will do on site, we recommend doing these activities prior to your visit.

What plant parts do we eat?

Purpose:

To discover what students know about plant parts and foods from plant parts

Materials:

- Paper
- Pencil/Markers/
Crayons

Steps:

1. Share with the students that to prepare for the field trip, they will show what they know about plants parts.
2. Ask the students to draw a plant. Allow each student to share his/her drawing with another student and add any missing parts to their drawing.
3. As a class review all of the plant parts, and make a list on the board. (roots, stem, leaves, flowers, fruits, seeds)
4. Then in pairs have students brainstorm as many foods as they know that come from one plant part category. For example, for the leaves category students could list: lettuce, spinach, cabbage, etc.
5. If time permits, allow students to brainstorm for multiple categories and also draw pictures of those foods.

Fruit & Vegetable Memory Game

Purpose:

To encourage students to describe fruits and vegetables using external characteristics

Materials:

- An assortment of fruits and vegetables with a variety of sizes and textures (plastic food, or pictures will work too)

Steps:

1. Give pairs of students a mixture of fruits and vegetables.
2. Have them carefully observe the fruit and vegetables.
3. Then have one student remove and hide just one fruit or vegetable from the mixture. The other student should not see which one was taken.
4. The student that did not see which one was taken must describe the missing fruit or vegetable (not just say the name of the food).
5. Then have students trade roles.

Literature Connections

Flowers, Fruits, and Seeds by S. Morgan, *A Fruit is a Suitcase for Seeds* J. Richards

Garden Groceries Post-Trip Activities

These activities will build upon the learning experiences from the field trip. We recommend doing these activities after your visit.

Power Plant

Purpose:

To assess what students now know about plant parts and foods from plant parts

Materials:

- Paper
- Pencil/Markers/
Crayons

Steps:

1. Share with the students that they will get to show how much they now know about plant parts. Have the students create a power plant, with every part being an edible food.
2. For example the students could have a power plant with a carrot root, an asparagus stem, lettuce leaves, and an apple fruit.
3. Have the students create a name for their plant and share their power plant with other students.

One Meal of Plants

Purpose:

To assess what students now know about plant parts and foods from plant parts

Materials:

- Paper
- Pencil/Markers/
Crayons
- Bar graph template
(optional)

Steps:

1. Share with the students that they will get to show how much they now know about plant parts and (optional) answer a research question.
2. Ask students to think about their breakfast or lunch. (Optional) The research question is: How many plant parts were in the meal? Have each student make a prediction.
3. If needed, remind the students that wheat is a seed and juice usually comes from fruit.
4. In small groups, have the students create a list, or simple bar graph, to show which plant part is the most common. Note: Students can choose one student's meal to focus on, or use each student's meal.
5. Have the students share their lists or graphs with the class. Discuss the answer to the research question.

Literature Connections

Flowers, Fruits, and Seeds by S. Morgan, *A Fruit is a Suitcase for Seeds* J. Richards