



Grow a Summer Term Veg Garden
Medium Term Plan - Year 3/4

The dates in this plan assume that you run this Scheme of Work for the summer term, starting after the Easter Holiday 2017 and planting in early May. If used during this time, the growth of your plants should fit with the lesson plans, weather dependent of course!

The plan assumes a 60-90 minute slot per week as a whole class activity. Between these times, small groups of children could be watering/checking the plants on a daily basis if desired.



CHECKLIST

Everything you will need:

AT SCHOOL:

You will need a growing space of 12-15m²
This can be any combination of raised beds and other garden beds, pots and containers and grow bags.

Other equipment you will need includes the following:
(mostly available from your local garden centre or online at www.rocketgardens.co.uk)

- Garden Forks/Spades
- Hand Forks
- Trowels
- Rake (optional)
- Multipurpose Compost (for filling pots/containers)
- Bamboo Canes x16 (measuring approx 1.5m long)
- Garden Twine/String
- Scissors
- Watering Can/Hose
- Wheelbarrow (optional)
- Shallow bucket/plastic container for water
- Plant markers (you could write on large pebbles or lollipop sticks)

PROVIDED WITH YOUR GARDEN:

You will receive a box of baby organic veg plants and a complete growing guide.

THE FOLLOWING RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE TO DOWNLOAD:

- Medium Term Lesson Plan
- Individual Lesson Plans
- Powerpoint Presentations
- Garden Layout Design
- Worksheets & Cut Outs
- Easy Recipe Ideas



Lesson & Date	Theme/ Learning Objective	Classroom Activity	Outdoor Activity	Resources
1 - Apr 18th	HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW? LO: To find out what a plant needs in order to grow & understand the jobs of each part of a plant	Powerpoint presentation/class discussion: - What a plant needs in order to grow. - The different parts of a plant and the jobs that they do. - The difference between healthy/unhealthy plants. Worksheet: - The different parts of a plant & their jobs.	In the school grounds, identify an area suitable for growing your veg garden based on the conditions a plant needs in order to grow.	- Powerpoint - Work Sheet
2 - Apr 24th	MAKE YOUR BED LO: To explore the needs of different plant types	Powerpoint presentation/class discussion: - Discuss the different ways in which some plant types grow. - How can we help improve soil for better growth? (worms/digging)	Prepare your beds/pots/growbags: If using a bed, dig over to loosen earth and ensure it is weed free. If using pots/planters, ensure there is a hole in the base for drainage, place small stones in the base to further aid drainage and fill with multipurpose compost. If using growbags, cut holes in top. Construct bamboo wig-wams to support 10 runner beans (2 wigwams each with 5 canes) and set 6 upright bamboo canes for tomato supports.	- Powerpoint - Work Sheet - Growing Guide
3 - May 1st	GRAND DESIGNS LO: To identify different vegetables and their plant groups and work out how best to lay them out within the veg patch.	Class discussion/Powerpoint: - Explore the different types of veg plant, for example, root vegetables, fruiting vegetables etc. Group exercise: - Name that vegetable (Powerpoint) - Put the different vegetable plants into their groups	Decide how you will arrange the plants within your garden - either mark out rows with string and plant markers, or draw a plan with chalk on the playground (alternatively use the cut-out vegetables to stick to a large sheet of paper or a whiteboard)	- Vegetable Illustrations - Powerpoint - Growing Guide
4 - May 8th	READY, STEADY...PLANT! LO: To understand how water gets from the soil to the plant via its roots, and how to plant your plants.		Carefully unpack your plants. Soak the roots of each plant in a bucket of water before planting. Following your garden layout from lesson 3, plant your plants. When done, water them in well.	- Growing Guide - Garden Layout Design
5 - May 15th	PROTECT YOUR PLANTS FROM AN ALIEN INVASION! LO: To identify a range of mini beasts, and discover which are good/bad for the veg patch	Class discussion/Powerpoint: - What insects and other visitors might we expect to see in a UK garden? - Which are helpful in the garden? Why? - Which are "pests"? Why? - How could you protect your plants against pests?	Be a bug detective: Look out for signs of caterpillars. Hunt for friendly bugs (ladybirds etc.) Can you see any slug/snail trails? Protect plants against pests - put netting over cauliflower and cabbage to prevent pigeons and butterflies. Set some slug protection. Following on from lesson 4, do the plants look healthy? Has it rained lately? Check soil to see if it is dry. Do they need to be watered?	- Powerpoint - Growing Guide
6 - May 22nd	THE BEE'S KNEES LO: To understand how plants reproduce and the part bees play in pollination.	Class discussion/Powerpoint: - Why do plants need to reproduce? - How do plants reproduce? - Where do you think the seeds will form? - Why are bees so important?	Are there any flowers forming? Can you see any bees? Are there any areas of the school grounds that would be great for bees? - Ongoing watering and mini beast check. - Is anything big enough to eat? (possible harvest of outer leaves of lettuces/spinach)	- Powerpoint
HALF TERM				

Lesson & Date	Theme/ Learning Objective	Classroom Activity	Outdoor Activity	Resources
7 - Jun 5th	DON'T WASTE YOUR ENERGY! LO: To understand how energy can be wasted in a plant and how to solve this problem with tomatoes.	Class Discussion: - What would happen if a tomato plant just kept on growing? - What can be done to stop energy from being wasted? Individual/Group Work: - Make an instruction sheet for "pinching out" tomatoes.	Pinch out tomatoes – take away any excess branches so that energy which could be used to grow fruits is not 'wasted'. Tie upright stems loosely to canes for support. Ongoing watering and mini beast check.	- Worksheet - Growing Guide
8 - Jun 12th	WHY DON'T POTATOES NEED BOYFRIENDS? LO: To learn how some plants reproduce without using pollination	Class discussion: - Recap on lesson 6. Teacher Input: - Introduce the concept that some plants, eg potatoes, reproduce by making copies of themselves.	Earth up potatoes by drawing a mound of soil over the top of any shoots/leaves. This will give them more space and darkness to reproduce, so you'll get a better crop. On-going watering and mini beast check. Is there anything ready to be harvested?	- Powerpoint - Growing Guide
9 - Jun 19th	PRET-A-MANGER! LO: To learn about healthy diets	Class discussion: - How many veggies should you eat every day? - What other foods do you need in your diet? Group Work: - Design a menu/meal using the produce from your garden	Check what is ready to harvest. On-going watering and mini beast check.	- Recipe ideas
10 - Jun 26th	CAN YOU BECOME A VEGETABLE MILLIONAIRE? LO: To explore ways to earn money from growing vegetables.	Group Work: - Run a Dragon's Den type activity by brainstorming how you could make money out of your veg? eg. Make chutney, have a stall at the school fair, sell veg to parents. - How could you use the money?	Check what is ready to harvest. On-going watering and mini beast check.	
11 - Jul 3rd	IS HOME GROWN REALLY BEST? LO: To test the difference between homegrown, organic veg, and shop bought veg.	Class/Group Discussion: - Do you think homegrown veggies are more nutritious than shop bought ones? Why? - In what ways is it better to grow your own? - How does growing your own affect the planet? - Why do you think shop bought lettuce lasts longer in the fridge than homegrown? Discuss pros and cons of this.	Run a blind taste test – taste some supermarket tomatoes and your home grown tomatoes with a blindfold on – do they taste different? Which tastes better? Repeat this exercise with other veggies that are ready. On-going watering and mini beast check. Harvest what you can.	- Powerpoint
12 - Jul 10th	SPECIAL OFFER! LO: To run a fundraising event	Class Preparation: - How much will you charge? How much do vegetables cost in the supermarket? - How much will you make if you can sell all their produce? - Make price tags and labels	Harvest what you can for your farmer's market or veg stall. Set up your stall with price tags, labels and make sure you are ready when your customers arrive.	

NOTES

Individual Lesson Plans and other downloadable resources will be available from April 18th 2017.

