



Plants Unit Overview

You can use the Plants unit structure as shown here, or you may decide to vary the unit structure to better meet the needs of your class, for example: spread activities out over multiple days, repeat key activities to better reinforce learning, revisit songs during class transitions, or extend Small Group conversations during whole-class Circle-Time: Wrap-Up.

Week 1: Seed Observations and How We Measure			
PLANTS	Lesson 1 Children plant and observe seed growth.	Lesson 2 Children observe sprouting seeds in plastic bags and discuss how seeds grow and change.	Lesson 3 Children observe and document growing seeds and plants.
Circle Time: Introduction	Introducing Seeds & Journals (digital journal) 10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Examine seeds and journals. This Is the Way We Plant the Seeds (song) 5 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Song and mime a planting song.	The Carrot Seed by Ruth Krauss (read-aloud) 10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Read <i>The Carrot Seed</i>. This Is the Way We Plant the Seeds (song) 5 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Song and mime a planting song. Wonder Farm (digital app) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Explore how virtual plants grow.	Class Garden: Compare & Contrast (observation) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Compare class plants and seeds. Farmers Market (digital app) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Measure tall / wide virtual plants.
Small Group	Planting Seeds (hands-on) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Plant seeds in a bag and in soil. Growing Beans: Journal Entries (digital journal) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Measure, record bean plant growth.	Science Talk: Sprouting Seeds (hands on) 5 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Discuss emerging bean sprouts. Growing Beans: Journal Entries (digital journal) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Measure, record bean plant growth. Wonder Farm Dice Game (hands-on) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Play a plant growth dice game.	Science Talk: Sprouting Seeds (hands on) 5 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Discuss emerging bean sprouts. Growing Beans: Journal Review (digital journal) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none">Review plant changes & growth.



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WK 1: PLANTS	Lesson 1	Lesson 2	Lesson 3
Learning Centers	<p>Seed Sorting (hands-on) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sort by different characteristics. <p>Seed Art Frames (hands-on) 5-15 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create picture frames with seeds. 	<p>Seed Sorting (hands-on) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sort by different characteristics. <p>Wonder Farm (digital app) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore how virtual plants grow. <p>Wonder Farm Dice Game (hands-on) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Play a plant growth dice game. 	<p>Seed Art Frames (hands-on) 5-15 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create picture frames with seeds. <p>Wonder Farm (digital app) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore how virtual plants grow. <p>Farmers Market (digital app) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measure tall / wide virtual plants. <p>Wonder Farm Dice Game (hands-on) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Play a plant growth dice game.
Snack Time			<p>Snacks with Seeds, Part 1 (hands-on) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taste, describe foods with seeds.
Circle Time: Wrap-Up	<p>Planting Seeds (hands-on) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plant seeds in a bag and in soil. <p>A Seed Without Water (hands-on) 5 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore how a seed sprouts without water. 	<p>Growing Beans: Journal Review (digital journal) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review plant changes & growth. <p>A Seed Without Water (hands-on) 5 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore how a seed sprouts without water. <p>Five Little Plants (fingerplay) 2-5 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Act out how plants change. 	<p>A Seed Without Water (hands-on) 5 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore how a seed sprouts without water. <p>Watch It Grow (video) 5 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watch a video of a seed growing. <p>Farmers Market (digital app) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measure tall / wide virtual plants.



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Week 2: Growing and Measuring Plants

PLANTS	Lesson 4 Children observe and measure their growing plants.	Lesson 5 Children explore a plant's life cycle and what plants need to grow.	Lesson 6 Children explore how we help plants grow.
Circle Time: Introduction	<p>The Carrot Seed by Ruth Krauss (read-aloud) 5 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read <i>The Carrot Seed</i>. <p>Measuring Our Plants (hands-on) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measure plants and predict plant growth. <p>Farmers Market (digital app) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measure tall / wide virtual plants. 	<p>One Bean by Anne Rockwell (read-aloud) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read <i>One Bean</i>. <p>Design a Mini Class Garden (hands-on) 15 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan, design, and build a classroom garden. <p>Wonder Farm (digital app) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore how virtual plants grow. 	<p>One Bean by Anne Rockwell (read-aloud) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read <i>One Bean</i>. <p>Build A Floppy Tomato Support Structure (hands-on, engineering) 15 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design, build, test, and revise a plant support structure.
Small Group	<p>Growing Beans: Journal Entries (digital journal) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measure, record bean plant growth. <p>Measuring Our Plants (hands-on) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measure plants and predict plant growth. <p>Class Garden: Seed To Plant (hands-on) 5-15 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draw to record plant growth - from seed to plant. 	<p>Growing Beans: Journal Entries (digital journal) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measure, record bean plant growth. <p>Design a Mini Class Garden (hands-on) 15 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan, design, and build a classroom garden. 	<p>Build A Floppy Tomato Support Structure (hands-on, engineering) 15 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design, build, test, and revise a plant support structure. <p>Growing Beans: Journal Entries (digital journal) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measure, record bean plant growth.
Learning Centers	<p>Farmers Market (digital app) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measure tall / wide virtual plants. <p>Watch It Grow (video) 5 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watch a video of a seed growing. <p>Artful Seeds (hands-on) 10-15 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use collage materials to create art of plants and seeds. 	<p>Wonder Farm (digital app) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore how virtual plants grow. <p>Artful Seeds (hands-on) 10-15 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use collage materials to create art of plants and seeds. <p>Bean Growth Sequence Cards (hands-on) 5-15 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrange sequence cards to show the growth of a bean plant. 	<p>Measuring Our Plants (hands-on) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measure plants and predict plant growth. <p>Bean Growth Sequence Cards (hands-on) 5-15 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrange sequence cards to show the growth of a bean plant. <p>Wonder Farm Dice Game (hands-on) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Play a plant growth dice game.



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WK 2: PLANTS	Lesson 4	Lesson 5	Lesson 6
	Class Garden: Seed To Plant (hands-on) 5-15 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draw to record plant growth - from seed to plant. 	Growing Beans: Journal Review (digital journal) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review plant changes & growth. Watch It Grow (video) 5 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch a video of a seed growing. 	Wonder Farm (digital app) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore how virtual plants grow.
Circle Time: Wrap Up	Farmers Market (digital app) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure tall / wide virtual plants. Class Garden: Compare & Contrast (observation) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compare class plants and seeds. Growing Beans: Journal Review (digital journal) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and discuss plant photos, measurements and growth. 	Growing Beans: Journal Review (digital journal) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and discuss plant photos, measurements and growth. Watch It Grow (video) 5 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch a video of a seed growing. 	Dig a Little Hole (fingerplay) 5 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chant and act out planting and tending to a bean seed. Build A Floppy Tomato Support Structure (hands-on, engineering) 15 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design, build, test, and revise a plant support structure.

Week 3: Plants We Eat			
PLANTS	Lesson 7	Lesson 8	Lesson 9
	Children explore growing plants we eat.	Children learn about different parts of plants we eat - seeds, roots, leaves, stems.	Children explore fruits and seeds.
Circle Time: Introduction	Growing Vegetable Soup by Lois Ehlert (read-aloud) 5 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read <i>Growing Vegetable Soup</i> by Lois Ehlert. Our Garden Mural (hands-on) 10-15 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a classroom garden mural. 	Plants Feed Me by Lizzy Rockwell (read-aloud) 10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read <i>Plants Feed Me</i>, by Lizzy Rockwell. Create a salad recipe. Berry Garden (digital app) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design, test and revise a solution to protect strawberry plants. 	A Fruit is a Suitcase for Seeds by Jean Richards (read-aloud) 10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read <i>A Fruit is a Suitcase for Seeds</i>, by Jean Richards. Examine fruits with seeds. Berry Garden (digital app) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design, test and revise a solution to protect strawberry plants.



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WK 3: PLANTS	Lesson 7	Lesson 8	Lesson 9
	Planting Project (video) 5 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch a video of children growing garden tomatoes and sunflowers. 		Planting Project (video) 5 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watch a video of children growing garden tomatoes and sunflowers.
Small Group	Science Talk: Sprouting Seeds (digital journal) 5 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss emerging bean sprouts. Measuring Our Plants (hands-on) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure plants and predict plant growth. Draw Garden Mural Plants (hands-on) 15 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draw a plant, identify parts that grow above and below the soil. 	Science Talk: Plant Parts (digital journal) 5 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draw, label, and describe parts of a bean plant. Measuring Our Plants (hands-on) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure plants and predict plant growth. Growing Beans: Journal Entries (digital journal) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure and record bean plant growth. 	Science Talk: Plant Parts (digital journal) 5 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draw, label, and describe parts of a bean plant. Measuring Our Plants (hands-on) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure plants and predict plant growth. Growing Beans: Journal Entries (digital journal) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure and record bean plant growth.
Learning Centers	Wonder Farm Dice Game (hands-on) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play a plant growth dice game. Wonder Farm (digital app) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore how virtual plants grow. Bean Growth Sequence Cards (hands-on) 5-15 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrange sequence cards to show the growth of a bean plant. Class Garden: Seed to Plant (hands-on) 5-15 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draw to record plant growth - from seed to plant. 	Wonder Farm Dice Game (hands-on) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play a plant growth dice game. Berry Garden (digital app) 5-15 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design, test, and revise a solution to protect strawberry plants. Artful Seeds (hands-on) 10-15 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use collage materials to create art of plants and seeds. Draw Garden Mural Plants (hands-on) 15 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draw a plant, identify parts that grow above and below the soil. 	Drawing Fruits and Seeds (hands-on) 5-15 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examine, count, and draw different fruits and their seeds. Wonder Farm Dice Game (hands-on) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play a plant growth dice game. Berry Garden (digital app) 5-15 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design, test and revise a solution to protect strawberry plants. Growing Beans: Journal Review (digital journal) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and discuss plant photos, measurements and growth.
Snack Time	Snacks with Seeds, Part 2 (hands-on) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taste, describe, and chart fruit textures and sweetness. 	Salad Snack (hands-on) 5-15 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assemble and eat a salad made with different plant parts. 	



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WK 3: PLANTS	Lesson 7	Lesson 8	Lesson 9
Circle Time: Wrap Up	Class Garden: Compare & Contrast (observation) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare class plants and seeds. Draw Garden Mural Plants (hands-on) 15 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draw a plant, identify parts that grow above and below the soil. 	Class Garden: Compare & Contrast (observation) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare class plants and seeds. Plants Feed Me by Lizzy Rockwell (read-aloud) 10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read <i>Plants Feed Me</i> and create a salad recipe. 	Planting Project (video) 5 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watch a video of children growing garden tomatoes and sunflowers. This Is the Way We Plant the Seeds (song) 5 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sing and mime a planting song.

Week 4: Places Plants Grow			
PLANTS	Lesson 10 Children explore outdoor plants.	Lesson 11 Children explore plants in different places.	Lesson 12 Children review and reflect on the growth of their plants over the past weeks.
Circle Time: Introduction	Exploring Small Spaces (video) 5 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watch a video of children observe living things found in a small outdoor space. Dig a Little Hole (fingerplay) 5 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chant and act out planting and tending to a bean seed. Berry Garden (digital app) 5-15 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design, test and revise a solution to protect strawberry plants. 	Berry Garden (digital app) 5-15 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design, test and revise a solution to protect strawberry plants. A Fruit is a Suitcase for Seeds by Jean Richards (read-aloud) 10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read <i>A Fruit is a Suitcase for Seeds</i>, by Jean Richards. Examine fruits with seeds. Planting Project (video) 5 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watch a video of children growing garden tomatoes and sunflowers. 	A Fruit is a Suitcase for Seeds by Jean Richards (read-aloud) 10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read <i>A Fruit is a Suitcase for Seeds</i>, by Jean Richards. Examine fruits with seeds. Class Garden: Compare & Contrast (observation) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compare class plants and seeds. Dig a Little Hole (fingerplay) 5 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chant and act out planting and tending to a bean seed.
Small Group	Measuring Our Plants (hands-on) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measure plants and predict plant growth. Growing Beans: Journal Entries (digital journal) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measure and record bean plant growth. 	Measuring Our Plants (hands-on) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measure plants and predict plant growth. Growing Beans: Journal Entries (digital journal) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measure and record bean plant growth. 	Science Talk: How Our Beans Grew (digital journal) 5 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Observe, discuss, and draw emerging bean sprouts. Growing Beans: Journal Entries (digital journal) 5-10 mins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measure and record bean plant growth.



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WK 4: PLANTS	Lesson 10	Lesson 11	Lesson 12
Learning Centers	<p>Berry Garden (digital app) 5-15 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design, test and revise a solution to protect strawberry plants. <p>Class Garden: Seed to Plant (hands-on) 5-15 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draw to record plant growth - from seed to plant. <p>Growing Beans: Journal Review (digital journal) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and discuss plant photos, measurements and growth. <p>Exploring Small Spaces (video) 5 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watch a video of children observe living things found in a small outdoor space. 	<p>Growing Beans: Journal Review (digital journal) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and discuss plant photos, measurements and growth. <p>Berry Garden (digital app) 5-15 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design, test and revise a solution to protect strawberry plants. <p>Wonder Farm (digital app) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore how virtual plants grow. <p>Exploring Small Spaces (video) 5 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watch a video of children observe living things found in a small outdoor space. <p>Bean Growth Sequence Cards (hands-on) 5-15 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrange sequence cards to show the growth of a bean plant. 	<p>Growing Beans: Journal Review (digital journal) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and discuss plant photos, measurements and growth. <p>Drawing Fruits and Seeds (hands-on) 5-15 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Examine, count, and draw different fruits and their seeds. <p>Berry Garden (digital app) 5-15 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design, test and revise a solution to protect strawberry plants. <p>Wonder Farm Dice Game (hands-on) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Play a plant growth dice game.
Outdoors	<p>Let's Explore a Small Space (outdoor exploration) 5-15 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children explore a small patch of ground. 	<p>Nature Scavenger Hunt (outdoor exploration) 5-15 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Find specific outdoor items. Take a photo to share with the class. 	
Circle Time: Wrap Up	<p>Our Outdoor Discoveries (video) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflect on explorations from the Nature Scavenger Hunt and Let's Explore a Small Space activities. 	<p>Our Outdoor Discoveries (video) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflect on explorations from the Nature Scavenger Hunt and Let's Explore a Small Space activities. <p>Growing Beans: Journal Review (digital journal) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and discuss plant photos, measurements and growth. 	<p>Review and Reflect (digital journal) 5-10 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the Sprouting Seeds Photo Album and Growing Graph. Reflect on plant learning. <p>Watch It Grow (video) 5 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Watch a time-lapse video of a bean seed growing into a plant. <p>This Is the Way We Plant the Seeds (song) 5 mins.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sing and mime planting song.



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