

GREAUING GARDENS LSU AG CENTER + CHILDREN'S COALITION

LESSON OF THE MONTH

Lesson Title | What Plants Need to Grow

Book | *Up, Down, and Around* by Katherine Ayers

Objectives:

- Identify what a plant needs to grow
- Understand that a seed will grow into a plant

CLASS Focus: Facilitation of Learning and Development, Language Modeling, and Quality of Feedback

CLASS TIPS

Facilitation of Learning and Development

Child: "Plants like the sun."

Teacher: Yes, and they need it to grow and stay warm. What are some things you do to stay warm?"

Child: "I put on my coat in the winter." Teacher: "Some plants need to be covered in the winter to stay warm too."

Quality of Feedback:

Teacher: "What do plants grow in?"

Child: "Dirt!" Teacher: Good answer, what is dirt for growing plants called?

Child: Soil, I think. Teacher: "Let's look back at the first few pages of the book to see if you are right."

Language Modeling:

Teacher: "We just finished reading our book about how plants grow, can anyone describe how the plants move while growing?"

Child 1: "They grow up and down"

Child 2: "I think they go around and round."

Teacher: "Class, use your bodies to show me up, down, and around and around!" "Next, we will get a chance to plant seeds in a baggie."



Photos from Caring Hands

Submit photos to sfloyd@childrenscoalition.org



NATIONAL FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH

Farm to early child care and education enhances the connection children have with fresh, healthy food and local food producers. Through the LSUAg Center's Greaxing Gardens grant, our participating centers are experiencing these connections through their edible gardens. These children are experiencing multi-sensory learning opportunities through planting, tending and harvesting in the garden. Each month's lesson concludes with a tasting activity. The goal of this program is to promote lifelong health and wellness, as well as increase access to healthy foods, and encourage and support family engagement.

GARDEN TIPS | GROWING, HARVESTING + PLANTING

Early fall in Louisiana can be hot and dry which can lead to a failure of flowers to set fruit. Pay attention to fall soil moisture, transplant a little deeper and use organic mulch (leaves and pine straw, not bark mulch) to conserve that moisture and shade the soil. Manually water seedlings in the morning or evenings to nurture the seeds and prevent scorching in the hot sun. Another challenge in the fall garden is insects, be sure to throw away any infected plants, do not compost to prevent bugs next year.

What We're Harvesting This Month on Hall Street:

summer squash, eggplant, okra, purple hull peas, tomatoes, jalapeños, & cucumbers

What to Plant in October

- Direct sow seeds (plant these directly in the beds if you have space or start in containers if your beds are still producing): beets, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, Swiss chard, collards, kale, kohlrabi, leek, lettuce (leaf & semi-heading varieties are more reliable), mustard greens, onion, radish, turnips, shallots
- Plant transplants (from the greenhouse on Hall St or from your local garden center): broccoli & cauliflower
- Plants sets of shallots and individual garlic toes

Cindy may bring you some starts from our greenhouse when she comes to visit. Pick up plants and garden skills on Super Saturday, October 19.

