

Researching Gardens



Standards: ELA.IT.D.PS.1-3 ELA.SL.CC.PS.1-3 S.LS.PS.6





Materials:

- Zinnia's Flower Garden
- The Ugly Vegetables
- Garden images
- books that include garden illustrations
- paper
- blank books
- clipboards
- writing utensils

Preparation: Set up materials.

Vocabulary:

- garden
- public
- neighbor
- community

Intro to Centers:

"In Zinnia's Flower Garden and in The Ugly Vegetables, Zinnia, the girl, and her mother planted **gardens**. What do you notice?"

"Here are images of gardens. What do you notice?"

"There are lots of types of Gardens. Some people create *Gardens* at their own home by planting flowers or vegetables in a designated space in their yard. There are also *public gardens* that can be found near parks or stores and filled with flowers or plants that are for everyone to enjoy.

Another type of *garden* is called a *Community garden*--big *gardens* that *neighbors* share. What do you notice about the different gardens?"

"Today in Library and Listening, you can use these materials to research and document information about *different* types of *gardens*."

Show illustrations. Children respond.

Show images. Children respond.

Show illustrations as describing personal gardens & public gardens.

Show materials. Children respond.

Show materials.

During Centers:

Encourage children to use their research to create gardens in Blocks and/or with Beautiful Stuff. Compare community gardens and public gardens in resource to the illustrations in The Ugly Vegetables and Zinnia's Flower Garden. Encourage children to graph survey results, "What would you plant in your garden?"

Guiding Questions during Centers:

- How are community gardens similar to or different from the gardens in the illustrations?
- How are public gardens cared for?
- How can you use your research to create gardens in Blocks/with Beautiful Stuff?

Thinking & Feedback: Invite children to share their processes. Encourage children to describe the challenges they might have encountered.

Documentation: Collect samples of the children's work as well as photographs and/or video of their process; use the documentation to launch a discussion during Thinking and Feedback.

Provocation:

Arrange and document a field trip to a local public/community garden. Invite a community or family gardener to visit the classroom as an expert children can interview.