



WEEK 7 Day 2

Blocks: Building Gardens

Children work together to build gardens using varied blocks.

Big Ideas	The natural world can improve people’s quality of life and inspire artistic expression. Plants grow and change over time. They need light, water, and air to live and grow.
Guiding Questions	How can the earth inspire artistic expression? How do plants grow and change over time? What do plants need to survive?
Vocabulary	lot: a piece of land bed: an area of ground used for plants and flowers
Materials and Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● blocks (unit, hollow foam) ● <i>City Green</i> ● garden images and videos ● children’s research sheets, from Library and Listening ● varied paper ● writing and drawing utensils ● Ipad or projector <p>Organize and set out images, books and slides for inspiration. If possible allow for the children’s gardens to stay up into the following week.</p>
Intro to Centers	<p><i>This week we are reading City Green, by DyAnne DiSalvo-Ryan. What do you remember about what happens in this book?</i></p> <p>Invite a couple of responses.</p> <p><i>That is right, Marcy persuaded her community to make a garden in the vacant lot, a piece of land . You have planted different kinds of seeds. What are you learning about taking care of plants? Talk to a partner.</i></p>

	<p>Think, Pair, Share.</p> <p><i>Just like in City Green, Boston has many different kinds of gardens. Here are some other images and videos of gardens that you are also using as part of your research about gardens in the Library & Listening center.</i></p> <p>Share the slides and name the types of gardens</p> <p><i>What do you notice?</i></p> <p>Engage children in a group conversation about the different gardens.</p> <p><i>I am noticing different kinds of beds, which are areas of ground used for plants and flowers.</i></p> <p><i>This week you are going to use different types of blocks, to construct your own gardens. In the library you are researching different gardens and one of the resources is this video from Ryan’s garden. Let’s see what ideas we get.</i></p> <p>Show the video.</p> <p><i>What ideas do you have after seeing Ryan’s garden?</i></p> <p>Engage children in a conversation about their observations.</p> <p><i>What ideas do you have for what kind of a garden to make and what blocks to use? Talk to a partner.</i></p> <p>Think, Pair, Share.</p> <p><i>So many great ideas! You can have a flower garden, or a vegetable garden, or both!</i></p> <p>Restate some of the ideas. If it did not come up, you could suggest the use of blocks to make the perimeter of a bed.</p> <p><i>As you work collaboratively, you can start by making a sketch of your garden and then figure out which blocks would work best. Help each and share ideas about the garden you want to construct and maybe we can have our own community garden in the blocks!</i></p>
During Centers	Children build gardens. Remind children they could work on a lot all together and that in the lot there could be many different beds.
Facilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What kind of a garden are you building? What kind of plants are growing in your garden? ● Where is your garden located? ● How are you going to use the blocks to construct your garden? ● How will you take care of the plants growing in your garden? ● How does working as a team help you with your painting or drawing?

Standards	SL.1.K.a Participate in collaborative conversations about kindergarten topics and texts with peers, and adults in small and larger groups. SL.3.K.b Add drawings or other visual displays to descriptions as desired to provide additional detail.
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Notes