

WEEK 7 Day

Discovery: Harvesting Plants

Children harvest their plants.

*Note: Conduct this Center lesson when plants are ready to be harvested.

Big Ideas	Plants grow and change over time. They need light, water, and air to live and grow.
Guiding Question	How do plants grow and change over time? What do plants need to survive?
Vocabulary	harvest: gather the fruits or vegetables from their plants or trees
Materials and Preparation	 planted Mini Gardens, from STEM Investigation 1 Mini Garden notebooks, from STEM Investigation 1 transplanted beans plants, from Week 6 observational drawings from bean plants, from Week 6 writing and drawing tools scissors (optional) bowls or colander(s) paper towels gloves, optional Some children might find it easier to work with soil while wearing gloves. ingredients Decide on how the children will consume the vegetable. Some ideas include eating raw with a dip or tossing in a salad. Be cognizant of any allergies.

	Bring the following to the whole group meeting area for the Intro to Centers: 1 Mini Garden notebooks, plant, scissors, 1 bowl
Intro to centers	For the last several weeks, we've been taking care of 2 types of plants: our mini gardens and beans. Let's take a look at some of our observational drawings. What did you notice about how the radish plants and bean plants grew over time? Show several illustrations. Provide time for children to share their observations.
	And look at our plants today! Show the 2 plants. Again, as scientists, what do you notice when you look at these 2 plants? What's the same and what is different? Invite 2-3 children to share their ideas. When you visit the Discovery Table this week, sit down and draw your observational drawings of your 2 plants.
	You noticed that the vegetables have grown! We are ready to harvest our vegetables this week. When we harvest vegetables, we pick them off of their stems and gather them. Model cutting the vegetables off of the stem with scissors. Then show how to cut the stems without the scissors, using fingertips.
	What do you think you should do after you've harvested your vegetables? Yes, we should wash them. Model.
	Then it will be time to taste the vegetables! Model. Show the accompaniments, if relevant, such as dressing.
During Centers	Remind children to first create an observational drawing.
	Then children harvest their crops. They then wash their vegetables and taste them. Support children with describing the taste and textures of the vegetables.
	Encourage children to look back at their notebook data and talk about the process of planting seeds, taking care of the plants, and harvesting their crops.
Facilitation	 What do you know about planting? How does the taste? Have you eaten before? Do you eat at home? What do seeds need to survive and grow? How did you care for your plant?

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. VA.K.V.Cr.01 - BOSTON Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work. Experiment with a wide variety of both two- and three-dimensional materials, including recycled/repurposed ones after looking at images from several artists who use those materials.
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