
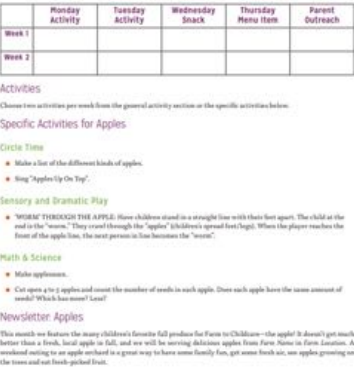




## Farm To ECE Curricula




Many ready-to-use farm to ECE curricula already exist and can be used for free. There are many benefits to using a pre-existing curriculum. The materials have been tested and are already packaged for the early learning programs. We will explore one such curriculum, Harvest for Healthy Kids, on the next page.





## Classroom Focused Curricula

Curriculum	Overview	Activities	Extras	
<a href="#"><u>Harvest for Healthy Kids</u></a>	A comprehensive curriculum with an activity kit for each plant of the month	<p>Circle time activities complete with a book list</p> <p>Cooking, sensory, and creative arts activities</p> <p>Meal time ideas</p> <p>Fast and simple activities</p>	<p>Parent newsletters</p> <p>Picture cards</p> <p>In-depth information for teachers</p> <p>Growing, handling, and storage information</p> <p>Recipes</p>	
<a href="#"><u>IATP Farm to Childcare</u></a>	A comprehensive curriculum with classroom activities organized by plant	<p>Plant activities by focus areas such as circle time, sensory &amp; dramatic play, math &amp; science, and art</p> <p>General food and non-food related activities</p> <p>Food songs and rhymes</p>	<p>Family engagement ideas and examples</p> <p>Parent newsletters</p> <p>Farmer profiles</p> <p>Guide to highlighting local foods and example menus</p>	



## Garden Focused Curricula

Curriculum	Overview	Activities	Extras	
<a href="#"><u>Grow It, Try It, Like It!</u></a>	A comprehensive curriculum with an activity kit for six plants	Hands-on activities  Planting activities Stories and songs  Nutrition education activities	“Growing at home” materials with parent letters, recipes, and a hands-on activity	
<a href="#"><u>This Week in the Garden</u></a>	Weekly garden-focused lesson plans by Growing Minds	Hands-on activities  Recipes  Book of the week	Teacher resources  Parent Newsletters  “What's growing?” summary	
<a href="#"><u>From Seed to Plate</u></a>	A monthly garden curriculum with two featured plants, one that will be planted and one that will be harvested	Weekly garden learning activities  Recipes	Suggested planting schedule	

<p><b>Edible Schoolyard</b></p>	<p>Resource library with garden-based lesson plans for every age group and curricular area</p>	<p>Garden learning activities</p> <p>Recipes</p> <p>Circle time activities</p>		<p> <b>What's in Soil?</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>PLACE OF LEARNING:</b> <b>GRADE LEVEL:</b></p> <p>Garden PreK – 2 Classroom Indoor Classroom</p> <hr/> <p><b>CONTRIBUTOR:</b> <b>TAGS:</b></p> <p>Mia Villaverde Soil BUSD / Longfellow Decomposition Berkeley, CA</p> <hr/> <p><b>Summary:</b></p> <p>This lesson invites students to experience soil and get to know the living critters that live in it, and the nonliving things that make up soil. These activities can be taught indoors with large butcher paper on the floors.</p>
<p><b>Big Green</b></p>	<p>Resource library with garden activities and curricula</p>	<p>Garden learning activities</p> <p>Recipes</p>		<p> <b>BIG GREEN ACTIVITIES</b> Soil Investigation</p> <hr/> <p><b>Activity Outcomes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students will become comfortable handling soil.</li> <li>Students will have a better understanding of what soil is composed of.</li> </ul> <p><b>Materials and Preparation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shovel or trowel to break up soil, if compacted or dry.</li> <li>Remove the activity and facilitate yourself with your Learning Garden.</li> <li>Obtain any volunteers to the activity and the structure of your planning day.</li> </ul> <p><b>Teacher Background</b></p> <p>Use this activity in tandem with the Planning Small Activity and Small by First Corner to create a three station planning day with support from volunteers! To use an outdoor for the day, please review Planning with your Curriculum.</p> <p>Investigating soil is a great learning opportunity for all students, whether they are new to the Learning Garden or an experienced student gardener looking for a deeper connection. Be aware that this soil can show this students' roots, weeds, other plants left or dropped.</p> <p>Only use this activity if you are 300% certain the Learning Garden that you are working in has not been planted! The Learning Garden may look empty if it was recently planted with weeds. Double check with your school's Learning Garden Team before digging with students.</p> <p>This activity allows teachers and/or volunteers to work with a small group of students in the Learning Garden. Students can rotate between different activities, so they only get one-on-one attention while they are investigating the soil. If you have a volunteer helping you today, make sure the volunteer receives this activity.</p> <p><b>Introduction</b></p> <p>Welcome your students to the Learning Garden and line students up along one side. Stand on the opposite side so you can address the entire group. Make sure that each student has enough room to get both of their hands to the Learning Garden around the soil surface.</p> <p>Ask students if they know what they will be doing in the Learning Garden today. Do they know they will be investigating the soil using 3 full then 3 inches.</p> 
<p><b>Kids Gardening</b></p>	<p>Lessons plans and activities for parents and educators</p>	<p>Garden learning activities</p>		<p><b>Big Hunt</b></p> <p><b>Overview:</b></p> <p>Students find their garden in a nearby green space and search for insects and other critters around the whole of outdoor space.</p> <p><b>Materials:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hand lenses (optional)</li> <li>Labels, labels and clipboard or garden journal (optional)</li> <li>Clipboard or pencil (optional)</li> </ul> <p><b>Approximate Time to Complete:</b> 10-15 minutes</p> <p><b>Location:</b> Outdoor</p> <p><b>Age:</b> Pres - 2nd Grade</p> <p><b>Season:</b> Spring - Fall</p> <p><b>Background:</b></p> <p>1. Gardens and green spaces are teeming with life. Although it is the larger animals that might first catch our eye, when you get on a hunt to specifically search out insects, they play a much more important role in our ecosystem. Our gardens also contain many other small invertebrates from the animal kingdom that are not identified as true insects, such as spiders, earthworms and garden slugs that you may find on your search. Big predators, insects have 6 legs, 3 body parts (head, abdomen and thorax) and most have wings.</p> <p>There are over one million known species of insects in our world, making up nearly 75% of the animal kingdom. Unfortunately, we often give insects a bad rap by focusing on those we consider pests, but the vast majority of insects are not harmful and actually, they play a much more important role in our ecosystem. Our gardens also contain many other small invertebrates from the animal kingdom that are not identified as true insects, such as spiders, earthworms and garden slugs that you may find on your search. Big predators, insects have 6 legs, 3 body parts (head, abdomen and thorax) and most have wings.</p> <p>So, just on your other side and head out to your garden or a local green space with your young gardeners to embark your big hunt. You do not need any supplies, at all, but it can be fun to have a field kit to get a closer up look at the smaller insects and animals, a garden journal or paper to record your findings, and a container or gloves to catch a few critters.</p> <p>2. Begin your search looking for flying insects such as butterflies, bees and dragonflies. How many can you find? Watch the different ways they move through the air. Remember how fast do you think they move? Why do you think they need to move fast?</p> <p>3. Now take a closer up look in just around the paper. Look for signs that insects or other small animals may be present such as holes in leaves and spider webs. Don't forget to look underneath leaves and under leaves with strong petals, such as snapdragons. Are the insects solitary or found in a group?</p> <p></p> <p><b>Kids Gardening</b></p> <p><small>© 2018 by the author. All rights reserved.</small></p>