



## Brickyard Educational Farm

### **Garden Station**

#### **Summary:**

Students will learn the through hands on activities...Seasonal activities that enforce their understanding of organic farming and gardening practices.

#### **Enduring Understandings:**

- Organic farming and gardening methods use natural, biological practices to protect the environment and improve human health.
- A plant has six parts, which serve distinctive purposes, ultimately for plant reproduction.

#### **Objectives:**

- Students will be able to understand basic principles of organic farm and garden systems. (No synthetic chemical pesticides, fertilizers or herbicides)
- Students will connect with where their food comes from by planting or harvesting a vegetable.

#### **Vocabulary:**

Root, stem, leaf, flower, fruit, seed, herbicide, pesticide, fertilizer, trowel, hoe, seedling, crop, mulch, weed, erosion, invasive species, harvest, seed tray

#### **Materials:**

Trowels  
Shovels  
Seedlings to transplant (two per student) or seeds  
Gloves  
Bug boxes  
Magnifying glasses  
Organic fertilizer (Compost, fish emulsion, etc.)  
Straw mulch

#### **Engage:**

Today we are going to practice some organic farming and gardening methods. Why do you think we are using organic methods?

- Have you ever planted something in the ground or harvested a crop?
- What does a plant need to grow?
- Introduce the students to the vegetable they will be harvesting or planting. Ask the students in what dishes they have had the vegetable.

**Explore:**

- Review the six plant parts.
- If transplanting, dunk plants in organic fish emulsion fertilizer.
- Lead students to prepared garden bed.
- Have students lay out measuring tape, and line up with trowels
- Demonstrate how to dig a trench or hole to plant seed or transplant.
- Have students measure correct depth and spacing
- Plant seeds or transplants, then cover with soil.
- Have students water seeds or plants with a watering can, and mulch if necessary.

**Explain:**

Have students reflect and hypothesize about their planting activities by having them answer the following questions:

- Why did we mulch the plants?
- Why did we dunk the plants in fish emulsion?
- What part of the plant did we plant?
- What function does that plant part serve?

**Elaborate:**

- Would this crop survive if we had planted it at another time of year?
- If you don't have any straw mulch, what else do you think you have mulched with?
- Do you eat any seeds or seedlings on a daily basis?

**Evaluate:**

Ask students at the end of the station:

- Where does our food come from?
- What makes this farm organic?
- Why should we care about growing organic gardens and farms?
- Name the six plant parts. Can you name one of each that we eat?

**Prepare students for the next station:**

Find a leaf, fruit or vegetable to bring to your next station.