

Focus on: Changes in the Environment

This lesson is meant to support the unit on Earth's Systems, Structures and Processes. You will have to plan ahead to complete this unit as you will need to visit the garden during each of the four seasons during the year.

Clarifying Objectives:

K.E.1.1 Infer that change is something that happens to many things in the environment based on observations made using one or more of their senses.

K.E.1.2 Summarize daily weather conditions noting changes that occur from day to day and throughout the year.

K.E.1.3 Compare weather patterns that occur from season to season.

Key Vocabulary:

Definitions can be found at <http://learnersdictionary.com>

- Infer
- Change
- Environment
- Observations
- Senses
- Sight
- Touch
- Taste
- Hearing
- Smell
- Summarize
- Weather Conditions
- Changes
- Compare
- Weather Patterns
- Season

Focus Question(s):

How does the garden change due to the different weather patterns from season to season?

Materials:

School Garden
Science Notebooks
Camera, iPad or some other means to photograph the class at the garden

Activities:

1. Starting near the beginning of the school year, take the class to the garden and take a class photo with the garden in the background. This will be your "summer" photo of your class at the garden.
2. While you are at the garden, use the Guiding Questions as students explore. Encourage them to use their senses and to pay

Guiding Questions:

While exploring the garden:

- What senses can we use when exploring the garden?
- How does the garden look?
- How does the garden smell?
- What does the weather feel like today?
- What do you hear? (You may hear birds, insects and other animals during the

<p>close attention to the weather. They can record their findings in their science notebook.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Repeat steps one and two in <u>late</u> fall to get the greatest contrast between summer and fall. 4. When you return to the classroom compare the photo from the summer with the photo from the fall. Use the Guiding Questions to guide your discussion. 5. Repeat steps 1,2 and 4 in winter. It would be great if there could be snow on the garden, but it is not necessary as snow is not typical in our region of the country. 6. Repeat steps 1, 2 and 4 in late spring when plants have started to grow. (If the photo is taken to early or too late, the observation could be too similar to either winter or summer. 7. Answer the focus question: <i>How does the garden change due to the different weather patterns from season to season?</i> 	<p>growing seasons in the garden that you won't hear at other times of the year.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What can you tell me about the weather during this season? What has the weather been like this week? Last week? <p><i>While comparing garden photographs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - How does the garden look the same during the different seasons? - How does the garden look different during the different seasons? - What was the weather like in the first photograph? - What season was it? How do you know? - What was the weather like in the next photograph? - What season was it? How do you know? - How does the weather change the garden?
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