

IGS Curriculum: 2nd Grade

Connections to Common Core Standards, and MVPS Priority Standards: (including, but not limited to)

- Math:
 - Measure and estimate lengths in standard units
 - Relate addition and subtraction to length
 - Work with time and money
 - Represent and interpret data
 - Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them
 - Reason abstractly and quantitatively
 - Construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others

- Science:
 1. Use critical thinking & consideration of a variety of ideas to solve practical problems using tools
 2. Observe and describe needs and growth of living things through stages & seasonal changes
 3. Observe and describe weather and seasonal changes
 4. Observe and describe the changes in the air and sky during the night and day

Connections to IGS Learning Goals:

- Appreciate the farming profession
- Know that everyone can grow food
- Understand the connection between healthy soil, healthy plants and healthy people

Essential Questions:

- What is soil?
- Where does soil come from?
- How does soil form?
- Where does food come from?
- Where do seeds come from?
- Why do we have farms?
- What is waste?
- How do humans and plants affect each other?

Fall (September – November):

Lessons:

- Introduction to/review of the garden
- Garden observations
- Exploring school compost system
- Garden vocabulary
- Harvesting from the garden
 - Weighing harvest
- Fall planting in the garden
 - Greens
 - Garlic
- Starting seeds in greenhouse
 - Grains
- Garden clean-up: mulching, soil exploration
- Seed introduction
- Seed saving
- Planting calendars

Field Trips:

- “Fall on the farm” @ Morning Glory

Winter (December – March):

Lessons:

- Introduction to the school worm bin; observation
- DIY worm bin experiment: building, observing, measuring soil changes
- Worm biographies
- “Dirt made my lunch”
- Seed Life Cycle
 - Seed-Root-Flower-Fruit
- Greenhouse experiments
 - Sprouting peas
 - Observing, measuring, tasting
- Plant sale introduction
- Seed catalog/packet exploration
 - Planting zones
 - Sun/Shade
 - Depth
 - Spacing
- Choosing seeds

Field Trips:

- “Winter on the farm” @ Thimble Farm Greenhouse

Spring (April – June):

Lessons:

- Starting seeds in greenhouse
- Preparing and “waking up” the school garden
- Designing, measuring garden beds
- Planting experiments
- Transplanting in garden/greenhouse
- Garden signs/Seed Packet signs
- Spring soil observation
- Soil amendments
 - Worm castings in garden
- Plant sale
 - Posters
 - Garden tours
 - Sales

Field Trips:

- “Compost/soil on a farm” @ the Allen Farm or Farm Institute