

Gleaning Lesson

Grade Level: 3rd

Season: Fall

Larger IGS Unit: Seeds

Essential Question: Why is seed saving important?

Objective: Students will be able to identify plants that have gone to seed, and will recognize the power in saving seeds in their garden for the future

Materials:

Seed saving: Colander, envelopes, pencils, seed saving basket

Herb drying: dehydrator, trays for drying, scissors

Garden work: harvest basket, gloves, cultivators, wheelbarrows/garbage barrels, mulch

Introduction:

As an alternative/supplement to a gleaning field trip, we will be gleaning from our school garden.

Review the definition of gleaning. *Today, we are the last harvesters of the school garden. We have jobs to do:*

- 1. Harvest anything edible (Leafy greens for the cafeteria, herbs for drying)*
- 2. Clear out all vegetation*
- 3. Mulch the beds*
- 4. Save the seeds*

Activity:

- 1. Harvesting: anything that looks like something we would want to save for the cafeteria (hint: leafy greens) put in the harvest basket. Anything that could potentially have seeds, put in the seed saving basket (these include: watermelon, pumpkins, beans, asparagus)*
- 2. Once we are done harvesting, split into two groups: herb harvesting and clearing out beds*
- 3. Once beds are cleared out, gather together and mulch beds without hoop houses connected*
- 4. Gather together in greenhouse to go over seeds to be saved, and herbs to be dried*

Wrap up/ Assessment:

- Each student names one thing he/she gleaned from the garden.
- Writing piece about why gleaning is important

Extensions: Connections to Colonial America Lesson