

IGS Curriculum: Kindergarten

Connections to Curriculum Frameworks:

- Math:
 - Count to tell number of objects
 - Understand addition, understand subtraction
 - Classify objects and count the number of objects in each category
 - Identify and describe shape

- Science:
 - Students will use skills of inquiry to engage in the scientific process
 - Uses tools safely to construct/deconstruct simple structures
 - Identify living/nonliving things by observable properties
 - Identify what plants & animals need to live & that life cycles vary among different living things
 - Describe the four seasons and changes in weather, and the effects they have on the life cycles of plants and animals
 - Recognize that people and other animals interact with the environment through their five senses

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:

- *Where does food come from?*
- *Why do we have farms?*
- *What do living things need to survive?*
- *Where do seeds come from?*
- *How do seeds grow?*
- *Why are seeds important?*

Fall (September – November):

Theme: *Food and farms*

EQ: *Where does food come from?*

Lessons:

- *Introduction to the Garden*
 - *Classroom instruction, rules of the garden, following directions*
 - *Garden tools*
 - *Garden harvesting and tasting*
 - *Garden vocabulary*
- *Fall Planting in garden (micro greens, peas)*
- *Introduction to Seeds: Seed saving (marigolds, sunflowers, beans)*
- *Sunflowers*
 - *Observation, seed tasting*
 - *Sprouting seeds*
 - *Tasting sprouts, sprout observation, plant parts identification*
- *Pumpkins*
 - *Harvesting in garden*
 - *Observation of seeds, tasting*
- *Apples*
 - *Tasting*
 - *Cider Press Lesson*
- *Introduction to Farms: Fall on a Farm*
- *Stone Soup (in class or field trip)*
- *Farm animal exploration/Farm Barnyard*
 - *“A bird is a bird” classroom activity*
- *Seasons of the School Garden: Fall*
- *Food Traditions: Thanksgiving lesson*

Field Trips

- *“Fall on the farm” @ Morning Glory Farm or The Farm Institute*
- *“Stone Soup” @ The Farm Institute (or school garden)*
- *“Birds on a farm” @ The Farm Institute*

Winter (December – March):

Theme: *Seeds*

EQ: *Where do seeds come from?*

Lessons:

- *Continuation of seeds: Seed matching activity*
- *Seed saving (sunflowers, kale)*
- *Seed sorting and categorization*
- *Seeds: Birdfeeders*
- *Herb satchels for holiday gifts*
- *Seed activities:*
 - *Seed Art*

- *Seed Paper/Seed Tape*
- *Seed Trail Mix*
- *Seeds: Living/Nonliving*
- *Seasons of the School Garden/Farms: Winter*
 - *Farm Animals in Winter*
 - *Winter observations of school garden*
 - *Greenhouse exploration*
 - *Planting experiment*
 - *Observing growth*
 - *Harvesting/tasting*
- *The Lorax – Marigold Lesson*
- *Garden in a Glove experiment*
- *Seed Life Cycle Puzzle*
- *Plant Parts Activity*
- *Introduction to Sheep*
 - *Sheep to Sweater grab bag*
 - *Felting in the classroom*

Field Trips

- *“Fiber” @ The Farm Institute*
- *“Winter in the garden” @ COMSOG or Thimble Farm Greenhouse*

Spring (April – June):

Theme: *Growing food*

EQ: *How can we grow food ourselves?*

Lessons:

- *Chick hatching*
- *Garden/vegetable alphabet*
 - *Garden alphabet book*
 - *Garden signs*
- *Sunflower house*
 - *The Sunflower House*
 - *Starting seeds in greenhouse*
 - *Transplanting in school garden*
- *Seasons of the School Garden: Spring*
- *Plant sale activities*
- *Marigolds for Mother’s Day*
- *Companion planting*
- *Garden harvests*
 - *Strawberry ice cream*

Field Trips:

- *“Spring on the farm” @ The Farm Institute*
- *“Dairy farms” @ Mermaid Farm and/or Grey Barn*
- *“Supermarket exploration” at Reliable, Stop and Shop, Cronig’s*

