

GP1679

Mosaic Herb Garden (Pk/48)

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2.3**S&S**Worldwide
MAKING IT EASY
to Help People Play and Learn Since 1906Project Ideas • Cross Curricular
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PLEASE READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE STARTING

**YOUR KIT CONTAINS:**

- Herb Seeds
- Plastic Flower Pots
- Adhesive Mosaic Squares
- Soil & Label Sticks
- Markers

YOU WILL NEED:

- Paper Towels
- Water
- Large Pan or Pail
- Measuring Cup
- Scissors
- Large Spoon

AGE GROUP: 6 and up
PROJECT TIME: 45 minutes**INSTRUCTIONS:****Instructor:**

Place soil pellets in a large pan or pail. Expand the soil pellets by adding 1 cup of water for each pellet. Wait for expansion to occur. You may want to add more water if the soil is too dry. Use the spoon as needed to mix soil.

Participants:

1. Peel and stick the mosaic foam squares onto the plastic pot, starting at the bottom. You can cover the whole pot or create your own pattern/design. You might need to cut a few mosaic squares so they fit at the end of a row.
2. Fill the pots 1/2 way with soil. Water soil so it is damp.
3. Plant seeds according to package instructions.
4. Decorate the craft sticks with markers, making a label for each type of herb.
5. Set on a windowsill that gets partial sunlight. Keep soil moist and watch the seeds grow!

Teaching Activities Inside

LANGUAGE ARTS/SCIENCE/MATH

OBJECTIVES: Record observations from seed time to harvest in a scientific journal. Learn to read a thermometer correctly using standard measures. Reinforce recording and tracking time in days, weeks and months. Learn to draw conclusions by analyzing and comparing accumulated information. (Recommended website: www.weatherwizkids.net)

SUGGESTED TIME FRAME: Fifteen minutes each week over a period of three months or longer. You may want to allow additional individual time as seeds first sprout so the exact days can be recorded.

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS: Thermometer, calendar, one journal for each child, spiral notebooks are fine. The kit provides 4 pots for each of 12 children. If a control group is going to be included for observation, four additional pots and soil will be needed. Reserve seeds from the original packages for the control group. For the soil variable, you may just want to dig up a small amount of soil from outdoors. Mark the variables on the stakes for the control group: soil, water, light, temperature.

PROCEDURE: Discuss the elements that all seeds and plants need for growth: soil, water, sunshine and appropriate temperatures. Plant and identify seeds with craftstick stakes. Water herb seeds and place pots in a sunny location. Decide on a watering system. Will children water their own plants or will one child be designated to water the plants each week? Place thermometer near pots. Explain how to read the markings on the thermometer. Decide on the placements and management of the control group. One pot needs to be in a dark location and another in a place with a variable temperature. The remaining two pots can be placed with the 48 herb pots, but either over or under water the water variable pot. Explain the purpose of scientific journals and list the entries that students will be recording weekly.

SCIENCE/ART

OBJECTIVE: Students will draw their herb plants at different stages of development. Students will draw and label the parts of a plant. Students will include the drawings in their journals.

SUGGESTED TIME FRAME: Ten to twenty minutes for each drawing. Some children may choose to do more drawings than others.

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS: Drawing paper and crayons, colored pencils or markers. Access to the internet and books or posters illustrating the different parts of the plant. (Recommended resources: www.google.com offers many links in addition to www.enchantedlearning.com)

PROCEDURE: Familiarize students with different parts of a plant. Have students draw the herb plants at different stages of development. Have students label the parts of the plant on at least one of the illustrations. Include herb name and date on the bottom of each illustration.

LANGUAGE ARTS/MATH

OBJECTIVES: Utilize the grown herbs. Read a recipe and follow the recipe instructions. Reinforce standard measuring concepts with measuring spoons and measuring cups.

SUGGESTED TIME FRAME: Times will vary depending on the selected recipes.

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS: Recipes featuring dill, oregano, marjoram and basil. Materials/ ingredients and kitchen utensils will vary depending on the selected recipes.

PROCEDURE: As a homework assignment, have students ask for parental help in finding and copying recipes using at least one of the grown herbs: dill, oregano, marjoram or basil. Photocopy recipes for students so they can include them in their journals. Select one or more of the recipes to make as a group.

Name _____ Date _____

Herb Seed Journal Page

DATE: refer to calendar

TEMPERATURE: read thermometer

WEATHER: sunny, cloudy?

SOIL: dry, moist, soggy?

OBSERVATIONS: describe growth

Dill

Parsley

Cilantro

Basil

OBSERVATIONS/CONTROL GROUP: describe growth

Soil Variable

Water Variable

Light Variable

Temperature Variable

Record the weekly growth of the herb seeds through harvest time. Herbs can be cut and used fresh or dried and stored for later use.

Once the herbs have been harvested, have students review their journals. Lead a group discussion: analyze, compare and contrast the effects of the various elements necessary for plant growth. Have students write their results in their journals.