

Suggested Activities

Outdoor Activities

Art projects: draw pictures of plants, produce, flowers; decorate fencing, wooden beds, and containers around plants; create stepping-stone paths, painting.



Bird habitats activity: birds, nests, etc.

Build bug houses

Charm snails & slugs

Cook

Dig

Eat, smell

Environmental education activities.

Examine things up close

Feel things, including emotions

Find a magic spot

Good bugs/bad bugs identification activity.

Harvest

Help with anything you're doing

Hunt for bugs

Grow herbs & bulbs to give as gifts year round.

Listen to the wind, frogs, crickets, bees, chimes, cicada

Make bouquets

Make garden shrines

Make plant collages

Plant seeds & starts

Predators (praying mantis, ladybugs) and plowers (earthworms/red worms) activity.

Press flowers

Pull weeds (kids love to do this for some reason)

Rake leaves (and jumping in them)

Read about bugs and plants

Read about gardens and/or read in the garden.

Save seeds

Sift compost

Sing songs

Take field trips to local farms, farmer's markets, community gardens, flower beds in local parks.

Indoor activities

Bulbs planted in off-season

Carpentry projects such as birdhouses, feeders, and window boxes

clipart by:

www.whimsyclips.com



created by:

www.littlesuziehomesteader.com

Container gardening

Dry and arrange flowers

Garden-related games, songs, and virtual field trips

Garden under artificial light

Identify fruits and vegetables

Make salads or creating recipes and cookbooks

Miniature and terrarium gardens

Nature crafts using pods, seeds, conifer cones, dried herbs and flowers, etc.

Propagate plants

Indoor growing

Lights: hang lights 2-3" above potting soil or plant starts

set lights on a 12-hour timer

Use fresh potting soil or sterile seed starting mix

If seedlings become leggy, lights are not sufficient-start again

Keep seeds moist until they sprout, then water daily; a tray under them keeps water constant and peat pots moist.

Projects: tea cup succulent gardens

Plant cuttings from aloe vera, christmas cactus or jade plant in tea or coffee cups purchased from consignment stores

Sprouts— grow and eat sprouts like alfalfa, clover, radish, broccoli, or mung beans.

Sprout lemon or orange seeds, sunflower seeds, wheat or oats.

Container Garden

Site location: sunny, out of wind, easy to access, water source nearby

Soil: potting soils specially formulated to promote drainage while holding water, organic if you can find it. Fill container with soil (do not add rocks). Fill to 2-4 inches from top rim.

Container: 12-24" tall and 12-24" diameter.

plastic: inexpensive, lightweight, will fade and crack in sun

black plastic nursery pots: inexpensive/free, long lasting, warm up quickly

terra cotta: expensive, heavy, crack and crumble if left outside in winter

glazed-clay pots: expensive, heavy, long lasting

half-whiskey barrels: recycled product, lasts for several seasons, large planting area

your creative choice: large bright colored plastic tubs, wheelbarrows, 5 gallon buckets, kid wading pools, etc.

Plants/seeds: look for plants and seeds that say they are for containers or are smaller or can be trellised. Just about any plant can be grown in a container, but some do better based on size.

Feed: Liquid fish fertilizer per their instructions, worm tea, organic fertilizer mix. Look for 3-4-2 generally, and 5-1-1 for lettuce, onions, and other leafy greens. The # corresponds with Nitrogen, phosphorous, potassium content.



Nitrogen promotes green leafy growth
phosphorous promotes roots, buds and flowers
potassium promotes absorption of nutrients and trace minerals

Extend into the community
4-H Youth programs
Community-wide projects
Extension programs
Farm to School Programs Volunteer, join others
Local garden clubs
Master gardeners
Parents/grandparents/extended family members
Schools
Youth organizations

