

9:00 Circle: PLANNING A GARDEN Read *Plants and Flowers*. Talk about the foods in the book and let the children help plan this year's vegetable garden. Demonstrate on a piece of posterboard how to make a diagram of the garden. Be sure to include fast growing and prolific vegetables such as radishes, beans, and zucchini. Plant an extra greens garden (unfenced) for the rabbits.

ART: Above the ground vegetable printing or garden collage

Lesson- **DIAGRAM OF THE GARDEN**

GARDEN TOOL NOMENCLATURE CARDS

PLANTING SEEDS

TONGUE DEPRESSOR GARDEN SIGNS

SEED PACKET MATCHING- above the ground vegetables

11:45 Circle: Play the seed rhythm instruments we made yesterday. Or read one of the garden books on the book list.

Story Time- *Vegetable Garden* or *Jack's Garden*

3:00 Circle: PLANTING A GARDEN Read *Garden* or *A Visit to the Gravesen's Farm*.

See *Roots, Shoots, & Boots* or *Gardening With Children* or *Kid's Gardening: A Kid's Guide to Messing Around in the Dirt*. Talk about and plant the above the ground vegetables.

[Plant a garden for the squirrels. Plant the seeds (sunflower and corn) of the squirrel food left over from last winter. Square off a corner of the garden in three or four rows one foot apart.]

EXPERIMENT: Fill a jar with popcorn. Add water to the rim. Place a plastic lid on top. By the next morning the lid will be pushed off. The seeds soak up the water and expand as they get ready to sprout. Plant the seeds outside in the garden. Be sure to label the popcorn with tongue depressor signs.

EXPERIMENT: Another experiment is to plant some popped corn in one pot and some unpopped corn in another. Label the pots "raw" and "popped." The popped corn, of course, won't sprout because its natural form has been changed and the stored life inside the seed has been destroyed by heat.

WORK

Garden Diagram- Make a square or rectangle on a piece of white paper. Draw lines to show the rows and print the names of the vegetables. Let each child design his or her own plan. Older children can learn to use scale. One inch equals one foot, etc.

Garden signs- Print the names of all the vegetables on tongue depressors. Let the children make as many as they want. Extra ones may be taken home. (Great printing and reading practice).

Seed packet matching- above the ground vegetables Buy two each of various "above the ground" seed packets such as lettuce, spinach, beans, peas. Lay out on a rug like other matching work.