

**Subject Area:** Science  
**Unit Title:** The Science of Gardening  
**Grade Level:** 5th Grade  
**Lesson Number:** 1 of 10

**Duration:** 2 hours  
**Date:** March 1, 2023  
**Teacher:** Ms. Johnson  
**Room:** 101

## Curriculum Standards Alignment

### Content Standards:

- 5.LS1.A: Structure and Function
- 5.LS2.A: Ecosystems: Interactions, Energy, and Dynamics

### Skills Standards:

- Scientific and Engineering Practices
- Cross-Cutting Concepts

### Cross-Curricular Links:

- Math: Measurement and Data
- English Language Arts: Reading and Writing

## Essential Questions & Big Ideas

### Essential Questions:

- What are the basic needs of plants?
- How do plants adapt to their environment?

### Enduring Understandings:

- Plants have basic needs that must be met in order to survive.
- Plants adapt to their environment in order to survive and thrive.

## Student Context Analysis

### Class Profile:

- Total Students: 25
- ELL Students: 5
- IEP/504 Plans: 3
- Gifted: 2

### Learning Styles Distribution:

- Visual: 40%
- Auditory: 30%
- Kinesthetic: 30%

## Pre-Lesson Preparation

### Room Setup:

- Arrange desks in a U-shape
- Set up plant stations with materials

### Technology Needs:

- Computer with internet access
- Projector and screen

### Materials Preparation:

- Plants and planting materials
- Whiteboard and markers

### Safety Considerations:

- Ensure students wash hands before handling plants
- Use gloves when handling sharp objects

## Detailed Lesson Flow

### Pre-Class Setup (15 mins before)

- Set up room and materials
- Prepare technology

### Bell Work / Entry Task (5-7 mins)

- Have students complete a plant-related worksheet
- Review homework and answer questions

### Opening/Hook (10 mins)

- Show a video on plant growth
- Ask students to share their experiences with plants

### Engagement Strategies:

- Think-pair-share
- Gallery walk

### Direct Instruction (20-25 mins)

- Present information on plant parts and functions
- Use visual aids and diagrams

### Checking for Understanding:

- Formative assessments
- Exit tickets

### Guided Practice (25-30 mins)

- Have students work in pairs to label plant parts
- Circulate and provide feedback

#### Scaffolding Strategies:

- Provide sentence stems
- Offer one-on-one support

### Independent Practice (20-25 mins)

- Have students complete a plant-related project
- Allow students to work independently

### Closure (10 mins)

- Review key concepts
- Ask students to reflect on their learning

## Differentiation & Support Strategies

### For Struggling Learners:

- Provide extra support and scaffolding
- Offer one-on-one instruction

### For Advanced Learners:

- Provide additional challenges and extensions
- Encourage independent research

### ELL Support Strategies:

- Provide visual aids and diagrams
- Offer bilingual resources

### Social-Emotional Learning Integration:

- Encourage self-awareness and self-regulation
- Foster a growth mindset

## Assessment & Feedback Plan

### Formative Assessment Strategies:

- Quizzes and tests
- Class discussions and participation

### Success Criteria:

- Students can identify and describe plant parts and functions
- Students can explain the importance of plants in the ecosystem

### Feedback Methods:

- Verbal feedback
- Written feedback

## Homework & Extension Activities

### Homework Assignment:

Have students research and write about a type of plant

### Extension Activities:

- Have students create a plant-related project
- Encourage students to participate in a school garden

### Parent/Guardian Connection:

## Teacher Reflection Space

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### Pre-Lesson Reflection:

- What challenges do I anticipate?
- Which students might need extra support?
- What backup plans should I have ready?

### Post-Lesson Reflection:

- What went well?
- What would I change?
- Next steps for instruction?

## Introduction to Gardening

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### **Introduction:**

Gardening is the practice of growing and maintaining plants, including flowers, herbs, and vegetables.

### **Importance of Gardening:**

- Provides food and oxygen
- Supports biodiversity
- Promotes physical and mental health

## Basic Needs of Plants

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### **Water:**

Plants need water to carry out photosynthesis and transport nutrients.

### **Light:**

Plants need light to carry out photosynthesis and grow.

### **Air:**

Plants need air to carry out photosynthesis and grow.

### **Soil:**

Plants need soil to anchor their roots and absorb nutrients.

## Plant Parts and Functions

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**Roots:**

Anchor the plant and absorb water and nutrients.

**Stems:**

Support the plant and transport water and nutrients.

**Leaves:**

Carry out photosynthesis and produce energy for the plant.

**Flowers:**

Produce seeds and fruits.

**Fruits:**

Contain seeds and provide nutrition for animals and humans.

## Photosynthesis

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**Definition:**

Photosynthesis is the process by which plants convert light energy into chemical energy.

**Importance:**

- Provides energy for the plant
- Produces oxygen

## Plant Care and Maintenance

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**Watering:**

Plants need regular watering to survive.

**Lighting:**

Plants need adequate light to carry out photosynthesis.

**Fertilization:**

Plants need fertilizers to provide essential nutrients.

**Pruning:**

Plants need pruning to maintain shape and promote healthy growth.

## Common Plant Problems

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**Pests:**

Common pests include aphids, whiteflies, and spider mites.

**Diseases:**

Common diseases include fungal infections and bacterial infections.

**Environmental Factors:**

Common environmental factors include temperature, humidity, and light.



## Conclusion

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### Summary:

In this unit, students learned about the basics of gardening, including plant parts and functions, photosynthesis, and plant care and maintenance.

### Assessment:

- Quizzes and tests
- Class discussions and participation
- Projects and presentations

## Assessment Rubric

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### Criteria:

- Knowledge of plant parts and functions
- Understanding of photosynthesis
- Ability to care for and maintain plants

### Levels of Achievement:

- Novice
- Developing
- Proficient
- Advanced

### Appendix

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**Resources:**

- Textbooks and online resources
- Plant and gardening materials

**Glossary:**

- Photosynthesis: the process by which plants convert light energy into chemical energy
- Transpiration: the process by which plants release water vapor into the air

## References

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### Textbooks:

- "Biology" by Campbell and Reece
- "The Plant Book" by Mabberley

### Online Resources:

- National Geographic
- Smithsonian Institution

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