

# Garden Lesson: Garden Habitats

Season: Spring | Grades: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>

## Ohio Science Concept

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Interactions with habitats: living things cause changes on Earth
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade: Behavior, growth and changes: individuals of the same kind differ in their traits and sometimes their differences give individuals advantages in surviving and reproducing

## Next Generation Science Standard (Kentucky Academic Standards)

- 2-LS4: Make observations of plants and animals to compare the diversity of life in different habitats.
- 3-LS4-3: Construct an argument with evidence that in a particular habitat some organisms can survive well, some survive less well and some not at all.

## Science Inquiry and Application

- Communicate about observations, investigations and explanations
- Employ simple equipment and tools to gather data and extend the senses

## Ohio Mathematics Standards

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade: Geometry- reason with shapes and their attributes.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade: Geometry- geographic measurement: recognize perimeter.

## Objectives

Students will...

- Use magnifying glasses and observational skills to identify signs of interactions among components in a food web.
- Identify organisms the school garden habitat and explain how they are related to each other.
- Practice proper harvesting techniques and enjoy eating a salad composed of produce they played a role in planting and watering.

## Materials

- Transition signal (bell, chime, etc.)
- *Observe Station*: Food web cards
- *Explore Station*: Magnifying glasses
- *Garden Station*: Bowls, scissors, dressing (optional)

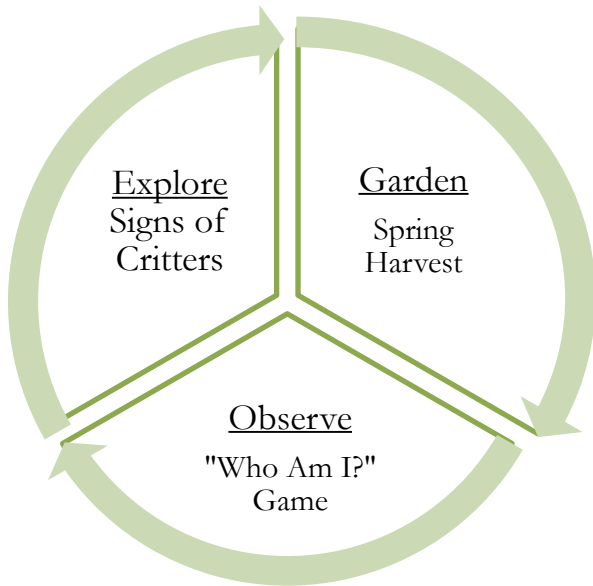
## Overview

This lesson guides students in investigating their school garden habitats and food web. At the observe station, students discuss the plants and animals that live in the garden and how they are all connected. At the explore station, students are guided in searching the garden for signs of interactions between and among plants and animals in the food web. At the garden station, students harvest spring crops. The lesson ends with a celebration of the students' hard work, garden knowledge and connection to their food as the group eats the harvested crops in a salad together.

**5 minutes Introduction**

- Welcome & review expectations
- Group discussion about habitats and food web
- Break into three groups for station time

**20 minutes Station Rotation** (5 minutes per station + 1 minute for transition)



**Observe: Who am I?**

Materials: Food web cards

- Encourage students to think of plants and animals they've seen in the garden.
- Lead a discussion about how the organisms they named interact or live in the garden.
- Put a picture of a plant or animal that can be found in the garden on each students back.
- Have students ask each other "yes" or "no" questions to figure out their organism.

**Explore: Signs of Creatures**

Materials: Magnifying glasses

- Review ways in which plants and animals in a habitat could interact (food, homes, etc)
- In partners have students look for signs of interactions between or among plants and animals.
- Give students a few minutes to explore, and then gather group and walk together and have students share what they found.

**Garden: Harvest**

Materials: Bowls, scissors, dressing (optional)

- Walk around the garden and show students what is ready to be harvested.
- Demonstrate how to harvest properly so the plant can continue to grow.
- Give each student the chance to help harvest and put what they collect into a community bowl.

**5 minutes Conclusion: What Can You Do?**

- Share the harvested salad and celebrate the student's hard work, contributions and garden knowledge!
- Encourage students to garden with their families and in their future school years!

## “Who am I” Cards



Sun



Eggplant



Grasshopper



Praying Mantis







**Pumpkin**



**Com**









Cardinal



Apple Tree

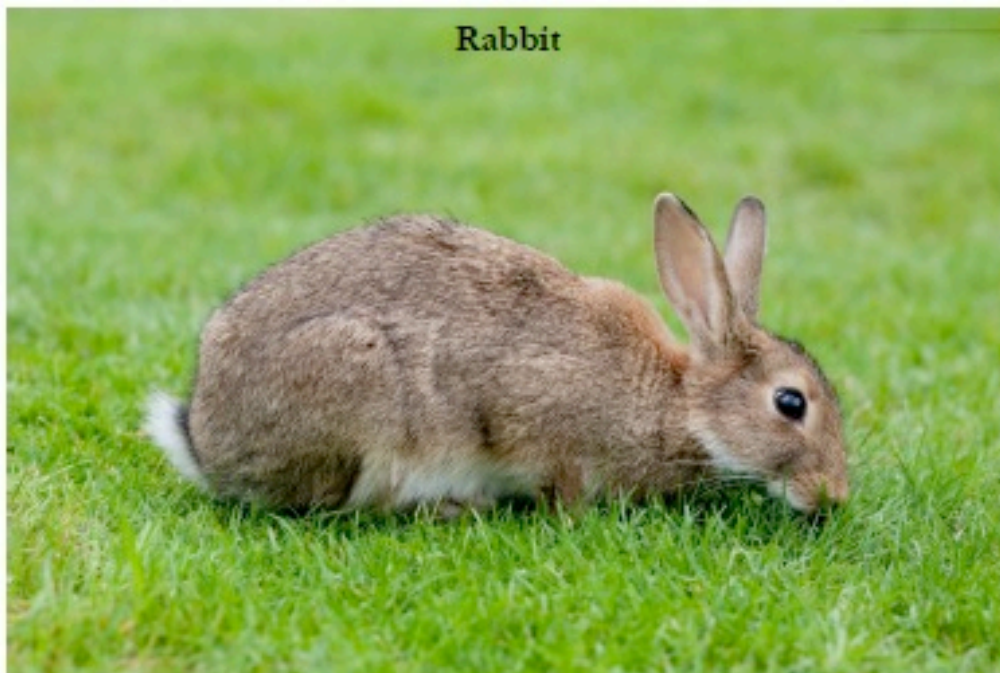


Bee



Sunflower







Squirrel



Acorn







Bat

