

LESSON #6: Planting Day

OVERVIEW:

The purpose of this lesson is to physically put the plants in the garden.

SUB-QUESTION:

What has to be done prior to Planting Day? Part of planting day is to stage all the different things that must be organized before the actual planting begins.

In Lesson 5, students should have completed the following:

- The garden site should already be primed and ready for planting. This might mean having holes already dug for smaller children to place plants in holes easily
- Have plants ready nearby, arranged in groupings how they are going to be planted (*be sure to keep shade plants out of direct sunlight*):
 - For instance, if large plants are going into the top of a mound have those lined up to be first, then medium plants, then the plants along the edges
 - Or, assign color-coded plants to certain age groups for them to plant, according to their skill level
- Have tools ready and set safely aside nearby
- Have human planting resources ready (students, teachers, adults, volunteers)
 - Organize students by class, age, whatever is appropriate
 - Assign them tasks appropriate for their age group
- Have project leaders do the following:
 - Give a Safety Talk
 - Distribute gloves/tools
 - Demonstrate how to plant

- Have students, teachers, adults, volunteers start planting
- Supervise the work
- Finish by watering plants

WAYS OF KNOWING URBAN ECOLOGY:

Students will...

Understand . Assign and complete the different tasks and needs required to put plants in the garden, from staging the equipment and plants to assigning roles to volunteers

Talk . Discuss how to coordinate each group and ask for needs

Do . Manage a checklist with tasks and goals to measure progress

Act . Coordinate garden team to do their part

SAFETY GUIDELINES:

Review field guidelines when taking students outside to do any site visit.

PREPARATION:

Time: 1 class period for all 6 activities

MATERIALS (enough for # groups @ 4 in each group):

Activity 6.1 – Staging Resources - Make sure everything is staged and ready to go

(Review from Lesson 5: each group will have been assigned a different section of the garden site)

- plants
- tools (shovels – large, and hand)
- gloves

- Master 2D Garden Site Map of where plants are to be placed – drawn in Lesson 5
- Easel for Map on Flip Chart
- Student 2D Garden Site Maps

Activity 6.2 – Gathering - Gather at the site, understand safety rules

- Safety Rules
- Role Cards distributed at the end of Lesson 5

Activity 6.3 – Tool Distribution - Distribute tools to planting participants

- tools (shovels – large, and hand)
- gloves

Activity 6.4 – Planting - Begin planting in organized, supervised teams

- plants

Activity 6.5 – Watering - Water garden at the end

- water

Activity 6.6 – Clean-Up - Remove planter containers, reassemble tools in staged groups to be returned to storage areas or to those who donated them

- trash bags or recycling barrels to collect plastic planter containers and surveyor tape

INSTRUCTIONAL SEQUENCE:

Activity (6.1): Staging Resources - Make sure everything is staged and ready to go

(Review from Lesson 5: each group will have been assigned a different section of the garden site)

- As a review from Lesson 5, students should now know what section of the garden they have been assigned, and the plants that will go there
- Have students take out their 2D garden site maps, and review to be sure all groups know what their section and roles are

- Can bring the Master 2D Site Map on the Flip Chart paper outside with an easel in case students need to refer to it
- The plants and tools should already be staged from the prior day

Activity 6.2 – Gathering - Gather at the site, understand safety rules

- Prior to taking the students outside, review the Safety Rules
- Make sure students have their Role Cards from the prior day also (Materials Procurement, Digging Holes/Planting, Watering, Clean-up)
- Take the students outside and have them stand near their section of the garden they have been assigned

Activity 6.3 – Tool Distribution - Distribute tools to planting participants

- Have the Materials Procurement students from each group come to the tool and plant staging area(s) and get what they need for planting (large shovel, hand shovel, gloves, plants)

Activity 6.4 – Planting - Begin planting in organized, supervised teams

- Students will now begin planting the plants
- Circulate amongst the groups to be sure holes are being dug to the right depth and that the plants are being planted appropriately and covered up to the base of the plant with the amended soil
- Assist students as needed

Activity 6.5 – Watering - Water garden at the end

- Before watering the plants, the Clean-up Crew should remove all tools, surveyor tape, garden stakes, etc. and organize them in the appropriate pre-determined staging area
- The “Watering” students should then water the plants, with guidance from adult leaders – the amount of water will depend on the plant species

Activity 6.6 – Clean-Up - Remove planter containers, reassemble tools in staged groups to be returned to storage areas or to those who donated them

- The Clean-up students should be gathering all plastic planter containers either in trash bags or recycling bags or barrels for disposal or recycling, based on the site
- One more review of the area should occur to make sure all tools are put back where pre-determined, as well as gloves, garden stakes, etc.

Summary Notes / Conclusion: By the end of Lesson 6, students will be able to (SWBAT):

- Become confident in acquiring and organizing the resources needed for a garden project
- Work together as a team to plant plants at a garden site
- Complete a role assigned on a project team
- Stay on task and work with a team to accomplish a goal / complete a project

Lesson Standards Alignment (CA-NGSS) (see Curriculum Support Materials).

Lesson Adaptations and Extensions (see Curriculum Support Materials).