



Service Learning Lesson Plan

Project Title: Shape Hunt in the Garden

**Grade Level:
Kindergarten**

Duration: 2 months

Main Subject Area: Math

Theme: Environment

Objective/Description

Students identify geometric shapes through the act of planting a fall garden and starting seeds in differently-shaped containers. They then go on a ‘shape hunt’ in the garden. Students also learn that the vegetables in the garden are part of a healthy diet as they snack on fall vegetables cut into geometric shapes. Vegetables are donated to the school cafeteria.

Common Core State Standards

CCSS.Math.Content.K.G.A.1

Describe objects in the environment using names of shapes, and describe the relative positions of these objects using terms such as *above*, *below*, *beside*, *in front of*, *behind*, and *next to*.

CCSS.Math.Content.K.G.B.5

Model shapes in the world by building shapes from components (e.g., sticks and clay balls) and drawing shapes.

CCSS.Math.Content.K.G.B.6

Compose simple shapes to form larger shapes. *For example, “Can you join these two triangles with full sides touching to make a rectangle?”*

Driving Question

What shapes are in the garden? What kind of healthy choices can I make in the garden?

Investigation

Research, class instruction, interviewing civic leaders and/or professionals, surveying neighbors or peers

- What shapes can we name?
- Instruct students to draw and label shapes.
- Research proper seed planting techniques.
- Invite garden expert to come and help with planting vegetable seeds.
- Research healthy snacks found in the garden.

Preparation

Collaborative problem solving, planning, and task assignment by & with the students

- See “Planning Tools” at http://servicelearning.childreninc.org/?page_id=527.
- Teacher and volunteers demonstrate proper planting and harvesting techniques.
- Inside or outside: Plant fall vegetables in different shaped containers.
- Fall crops (choose a few): carrots, radish, beets, turnips, kale, collards, lettuce, Swiss chard (to set up for future lessons on plant parts, select seeds for roots (carrot, radish, beet), stems (potato, kohlrabi), leaves (any greens), seeds/fruit (snap peas))
- Collect different shaped containers (or have students collect). For example:
Sphere/cylinder: soup cans, to-go containers, old sports ball with top cut off.



Square/rectangular: to-go containers, milk cartons with tops cut off.
Triangle: build out of cardboard.

- In groups, fill with soil and plant seeds in containers.
- Water and place in spot that gets 6+ hours sunlight/day.
- Go on a “shape hunt” in the garden.
- During snack talk about how healthy snacks can be found in the garden.

Action

Service activities or methods used to address a social issue or community need

Plant vegetables in the school or community garden. Donate vegetables to the school cafeteria.

Reflection

Frequent assessment of students’ growing knowledge and developing skills; refer to driving question

- See “Reflection/Evaluation” at http://servicelearning.childreninc.org/?page_id=483.
- What shapes did we see?
- What seeds did we plant?
- Name the healthy snacks that we got from the garden.

Demonstration of Knowledge

Assessment of students’ knowledge/skills and project outcomes

Drawings of garden outlining the geometric shapes found in the garden and the vegetables planted. Informational posters to display in the cafeteria.

Community Partners

Includes anyone who offers expertise to the project or who benefits from the project

Community volunteers, garden experts, school cafeteria

Outcome

Funds or goods generated, direct or indirect service provided, advocacy or education done

Vegetables for the school cafeteria

Secondary Subject Areas (Bold all that apply)

- | | |
|--|---|
| ▪ English, Reading, Language Arts | ▪ Government and Civics |
| ▪ World Languages | ▪ Global Awareness |
| ▪ Arts | ▪ Financial, Economic, Business, and Entrepreneurial Literacy |
| ▪ Mathematics | ▪ Civic Literacy |
| ▪ Science | ▪ Health Literacy |
| ▪ Economics | ▪ Environmental Literacy |
| ▪ Geography | |
| ▪ History | |

21st Century Skills (Bold all that apply)

- Career Readiness
- **Creativity and Innovation**
- Communication and Collaboration
- **Critical Thinking and Problem Solving**
- Physical Education
- Initiative and Self-direction
- Flexibility and Adaptability
- Consumerism
- Information Literacy
- Media Literacy
- Technology Literacy
- Productivity and Accountability
- Leadership and Responsibility
- Social and Cross-cultural Skills

[Keep this page in template to ensure that any third pages have the correct header]