

1st Grade

LESSONS AT-A-GLANCE

SUGGESTED ORDER	ALABAMA CURRICULUM STANDARDS	TIMEFRAME	ESSENTIAL QUESTION
Garden Promise*	SS 1.2	Introductory lesson at beginning of garden education	What is our garden promise? Establishing rules and behaviors in the garden.
Which Season?*	Sci 1.2	Introductory lesson at beginning of garden education Can be done any time	What fruits and vegetables grow in which season? Students play a game to categorize vegetable pictures into seasons.
Investigating Soil*	Sci 1.2, Sci 1.7, Sci 1.34, Sci 1.35	Fall: August or September, before the fall garden is planted Spring: January	What is soil and how can we describe it?
Germination Station*	Sci 1.2, Sci 1.4	Anytime	How does a seed germinate? Build a “Germination Station” to see, first hand, how seeds sprout.
Planting Radish Seeds	Sci 1.2, Sci 1.4	Fall: mid- to late September, Spring: mid-Feb to early March After “Germination Station” lesson	How do we plant a seed in the garden?
Plant Parts*	Sci 1.4	Anytime	What are the six main parts of the plant? Play a motion game to learn the parts of a plant.
Counting Vegetables*	Math 1.18, Sci 1.1, Sci 1.2	Fall or Spring. After the garden has been planted	How can we use our counting skills in the garden? Create a picture graph to reinforce and interpret counting skills.
Comparing Leaves	Sci 1.2, Sci 1.4, Visual Arts 1.1	Anytime	How can we compare and contrast leaves in the garden?
Garden Tastings*	Sci 1.2, ELA 1.36	Fall: mid-late October through the first weeks of December Spring: late March through May	How can we use our five senses to describe produce from the garden?
Harvesting Radishes	Sci 1.2	Fall: mid-late October through the first weeks of December Spring: late February through May	How do we harvest a radish and describe it with our five senses?
Garden Detectives	Sci 1.2, Sci 1.4, ELA 1.36	Anytime	What has changed in the garden? Students use observation skills to hunt for clues in the garden.

1st Grade

LESSONS AT-A-GLANCE

SUGGESTED ORDER	ALABAMA CURRICULUM STANDARDS	TIMEFRAME	ESSENTIAL QUESTION
Worms*	Sci 1.4, ELA 1.35, ELA 1.36	Anytime	How can we describe earthworms?
Transplanting	Sci 1.2, Sci 1.4, ELA 1.26.3	Fall: mid to late Sept., Spring: early to mid March	How do we transplant a seedling?
Measuring in the Garden	Math 1.15, Math 1.16, Sci 1.2	Fall or Spring, after the garden has been planted	How can we use our bodies to measure in the garden? Use non-standard measurements to determine distance in the garden.
Garden Word Hunt	ELA 1.21, ELA 1.22, ELA 1.36, ELA 1.40, ELA 1.40c	Anytime	How can we use our reading skills in the garden?
Garden Word Game*	ELA 1.21, ELA 1.22, ELA 1.40, ELA 1.40a, ELA 1.40c	Anytime	How can we sort garden words into different categories?
Garden Phonics*	ELA 1.21, ELA 1.22	Anytime	What vowel sounds can we find in the garden?
Bugs	Sci 1.4, ELA 1.35, ELA 1.36	Early fall or mid to late Spring	What bugs live in our garden?
Sunflowers	Sci 1.4, ELA 1.35, ELA 1.36	Mid-late May	How can we describe sunflowers? Reinforce the parts of the plant while planting sunflower seeds, in time for the summer.

**This lesson can be done in part or in entirety indoors, if needed.*

1st Grade Lesson

VOCABULARY

ABDOMEN	one of the three main body regions of an insect; located below the thorax; contains the insect's digestive and reproductive organs
CLAY	rock particle in soil with smallest particle size; is smooth and sticky when wet; tiny pore spaces
COTYLEDON (KOT-L-EED-N)	stored food the seed uses to sprout and produce its first leaves
EMBRYO	will grow into a baby plant; first leaves and first root stored inside
FLOWER	where pollination occurs; site where the plant will form fruit and then seeds
FRUIT	holds and protects the seed; can be a vegetable like a tomato, a fruit like a watermelon, or a seedpod
GERMINATE	to sprout; to begin to grow
GRAPH	a way to organize and display data or information
GREENHOUSE	a structure enclosed by glass or plastic that can provide a controlled environment (<i>temperature and humidity</i>) to grow plants out of season
HABITAT	the home or environment of an animal, plant or other organism
HARVEST	to remove something from the garden that is ready to eat
INSECT	a small invertebrate animal that has a body divided into three parts and six legs
LEAVES	make food for the plant through photosynthesis; help the plant breath through transpiration
NUTRIENTS	food for the plant that is in the soil; nutrients are elements or compounds that provide nourishment essential for life
OBSERVATION	the act of looking or examining something closely in order to gather information
PICTURE GRAPH	a type of graph that uses pictures or symbols to display data

POLLINATION	the act of moving pollen from one plant to another; usually carried out by pollinating insects such as bees, wasps, butterflies, and moths, as well as birds, bats, and wind; the pollen fertilizes the egg cells that then make seeds
ROOTS	hold up the plant, take up water and nutrients from soil; sometimes store food for plant, such as sugars, in the case of root vegetables
SAND	rock particle in soil with the largest particle size; is gritty and has large pore spaces
SCIENTIFIC SKETCH	records observations about something with a drawing that labels its parts and interesting features
SEASONS	the four divisions of the year (<i>spring, summer, winter, fall</i>); based on the changes in weather and the Earth's position in orbit around the Sun
SEED	the product of plant reproduction; inside a seed is the embryo, which will grow into a new plant
SEED COAT	outer covering of seed; protects the plant embryo and prevents it from sprouting until water is available
SILT	rock particle in soil in between the size of sand and clay
SOIL	top layer of the earth's surface in which plants grow
STEM	holds up leaves, buds, flowering part of plant; connects leaves, buds, flowers to the roots; water and nutrients travel through the stem to get to the leaves
TAPROOT	the main root of a plant; grows straight downward from the stem and grows longer and thicker than fibrous roots; can reach far underground for water; examples include carrots, radishes, turnips, and beets
TEXTURE	the way something feels
THORAX	middle portion of an insect that contains the legs and wings; in between the head and abdomen
TRANSPLANT	to transfer a baby plant or seedling from a pot to the garden soil; when seeds are started in pots indoors, they are eventually transplanted out into the garden when big enough and weather conditions are right
TROWEL	a small hand-held garden tool that can be used in planting, weeding, smoothing soil, and other small-scale garden tasks; has a handle and a pointed scoop shaped blade