



PRESCHOOL SAMPLE LESSON PLAN



FIVE DAY LESSON PLAN: GARDENS



THE GROVE
CHILDCARE CENTER

STEM

ACTIVITY: Learn about plant growth by setting up a simple experiment with bean seeds in clear plastic cups. Discuss what seeds need to grow.

ACTIVITY: Explore the parts of a flower using a flower anatomy kit or diagrams.

ACTIVITY: Create a simple outdoor bug hotel using natural materials (sticks, leaves) and observe which bugs come.

ACTIVITY: Learn about the life cycle of a vegetable and plant a simple garden (e.g., radishes).

BUILDING CENTER

ACTIVITY: Construct a model of a garden using blocks. Add elements like garden beds and paths.

ACTIVITY: Build habitats for bugs using blocks and natural materials.

SENSORY

ACTIVITY: Create a sensory bin with soil, plastic bugs, and small gardening tools for hands-on exploration.

ACTIVITY: Create a bin with dried corn, beans, and other “harvest” materials for sensory exploration.

ART

ACTIVITY: Cut vegetables to make stamps, dip in paint, and press onto paper to create patterns and shapes.

ACTIVITY: Paint flowerpots and plant flowers in them.

ACTIVITY: Create garden-themed art with natural materials (leaves, flowers) and paint.

ACTIVITY: Glue seeds onto paper in various patterns to create a mosaic.

ACTIVITY: Use clay to sculpt simple garden items like flowers, vegetables, or bugs. Once dry, paint and decorate.

LITERATURE

BOOK: “The Tiny Seed” by Eric Carle.

BOOK: “The Very Quiet Cricket” by Eric Carle.

BOOK: “Growing Vegetable Soup” by Lois Ehlert.

BOOK: “Planting A Rainbow” by Lois Ehlert

MANIPULATIVES

ACTIVITY: Use small garden tools (plastic shovels, rakes) to sort and categorize different types of seeds.

ACTIVITY: Using plant growing sequence cards, teach children the life cycle of plants

ACTIVITY: Use garden-themed playdough mats to practice fine motor skills

LARGE MOTOR

ACTIVITY: Prepare and plant garden boxes in a designated outdoor space. Play a “bug hunt” game where children search for plastic bugs hidden in the outdoor play area.

ACTIVITY: Create a path with different textures (e.g., sand, grass, pebbles) for children to walk along. This sensory experience also helps with balance and coordination.

DRAMATIC PLAY

ACTIVITY: Use a portable garden bed to set up a garden center where children can pretend to plant, water, and harvest vegetables. Include gardening hats, gloves, and toy tools.

ACTIVITY: Set up a flower shop where children can “buy” and “sell” different flowers using play money.

ACTIVITY: Set up a “bug investigation lab” where children can use magnifying glasses to examine plastic bugs.

ACTIVITY: Set up a “farmers market” where children can sell and buy fruits and vegetables.

ACTIVITY: Host a garden party inviting parents/guardians or guests, where children can serve sandwiches and tea.