

EYFS OUTSIDE LEARNING PROJECT FACT SHEET

GROWING THINGS OUTSIDE (3 – 5 age range)



Photograph courtesy of James Lee Nursery School, Part of the Thames Federation

Key activities:

- Growing seasonal plants and flowers;
- Eating vegetables and salad items grown at school
- Sending plants / flowers home – encouraging parental participation
- Visiting someone's garden
- Visiting the plants in the local park
- Visiting an allotment
- Visiting the urban farm

Suggested learning and development links within Understanding the World:

- Plant seeds and care for growing plants.
- Understand the key features of the life cycle of a plant.
- Begin to understand the need to respect and care for the natural environment and all living things.

- Talk about the differences between materials and changes children notice (cooking vegetables that have been grown).
- Draw pictures of the natural world, including plants.
- Listen to children describing and commenting on things they have seen outside.
- Encourage children to recognize familiar plants whilst outside.

(Taken from the new Development Matters (Non-statutory curriculum guidance for the EYFS 2020))

Characteristics of effective teaching and learning:

Playing and Exploring:

- Regularly provide new materials and interesting things for children to explore and investigate.
- Provide appropriate non-fiction books and links to information online to help them follow their interests.

Active learning:

- Give children plenty of time to make connections and repeat activities.

Creating and thinking critically:

- Help children to come up with their own ideas and explanations.

(Taken from the new Development Matters (Non-statutory curriculum guidance for the EYFS 2020))

Oral story telling:

Jack and the Beanstalk

Books:

Oliver's Vegetables by V French
Oliver's Fruit Salad by V French
The Enormous Turnip by N Sharkey
The Gigantic Turnip by A Tolstoy
Jasper's Beanstalk by N Butterworth
In Wiggly's Garden by M Inkpen
Sunflower House by E Bunting
Growing Vegetable Soup by L Elhert
Errol's Garden by G Hibbs
From Seed to Plant by G Gibbons
I will not ever eat a tomato by L Child
Supertato by Sue Hendra
Nuts by Lou Peacock
Veg Party by Foges and Murphy

Online book suggestions:

Plants and trees:

https://clpe.org.uk/corebooks/books?f%5B0%5D=im_field_theme_ref%3A5917

Growing:

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/growing-ks1>

Useful websites:

Hammersmith Community Gardens Association (HCGA): general information for schools: <https://hcga.org.uk/learning-play/schools/>

HCGA

Get growing: <https://hcga.org.uk/projects/get-growing-2/>

- What to do in the autumn term: <https://hcga.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/Autumn-Term-Get-Growing-Tasks.pdf>
- What to do in the spring term: <https://hcga.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/Spring-Term-Get-Growing-Tasks.pdf>
- What to do in the summer term: <https://hcga.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/Summer-Term-Get-Growing-Tasks.pdf>

Royal Horticultural Association:

EYFS settings: <https://schoolgardening.rhs.org.uk/Resources/Info-Sheet/Early-years-settings?returnUrl=%2FResources%2FFind-a-resource%3Fso%3D0%26pi%3D10%26ps%3D10%26f%3D2,12:1,6:%26page%3D2>

Schools and families: <https://www.rhs.org.uk/education-learning/gardening-children-schools>

RHS Back to Nature Activity Cards:
<https://schoolgardening.rhs.org.uk/Resources/Info-Sheet/Back-to-Nature-Activity-Cards?returnUrl=%2FResources%2FFind-a-resource%3Fso%3D0%26pi%3D10%26ps%3D10%26f%3D1,6:%26page%3D2>

STEM teaching linked to Jack and the Beanstalk:
<https://www.stem.org.uk/resources/community/collection/312359/jack-and-beanstalk-plants-5-7>

BBC clip of a runner bean growing (speeded up):
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zystsbk>

Videos:

Cbeebies: How does your garden grow
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/grownups/how-does-your-garden-grow>

Cbeebies: Mr Bloom's Nursery
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/shows/mr-blooms-nursery>

Cbeebies: A radio story about a child who does not have a garden:
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/radio/radio-mr-bloom-no-garden>

KS1 class clips – Plants
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zpxnyrd/resources/1>

Alan Tichmarsh growing vegetables:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=allFSayTXU4>

Reception lessons from the online Oak Academy

- To understand what plants need to grow
- To sequence the stages of a plant growing
- Construct a beanstalk

<https://classroom.thenational.academy/units/growing-plants-1978>

Local community provision:

Find your local park and its amenities: <https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/arts-and-parks/parks-and-open-spaces>

Hammersmith Community Gardens Association: <https://hcga.org.uk>

Ravenscourt Glasshouses: <https://hcga.org.uk/gardens/ravenscourt-glasshouses/>

Loris Garden: <https://hcga.org.uk/gardens/loris-garden/>

Godolphin Garden: <https://hcga.org.uk/gardens/godolphin-garden/>

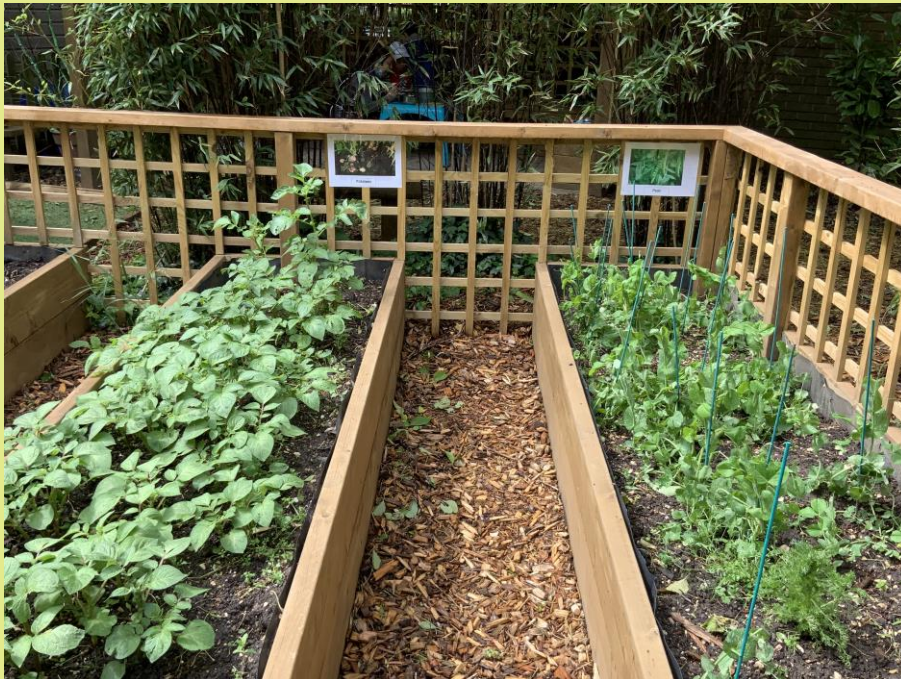
Wendell Park: <https://www.goparks.london/park/wendell-park/>

Learning how to grow sunflowers from seed



Photograph courtesy of Brackenbury Primary School

Growing vegetables with children and families



Photograph courtesy of Masbro Family ~Centre – multi-purpose garden used by children and children and parents during gardening Stay and Play sessions