Making Plants Fun! (The Classroom Version)

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Observation skills

**Scavenger Hunt**

How many items can you find?

- A flower with a long stem
- A purple flower
- A tree stump
- A bird bath or a bird
- Lincoln tomato plant
- A hoop house

**Tasting:**

You have learned that eating something is not just tasting it, you have used all 5 of your senses to experience this food!

When you get the sample food, you get to give it a report card. Each sense of sight, smell, feel, sound and taste gets its own grade.

**Niche Scavenger Hunt**

1. Find a producer:
   Students should find and stand next to a plant. Producers make food from the sun’s energy + water and air (photosynthesis).

2. Find a primary consumer:
   Students should find and stand next to an organism that eats plants. (bugs, caterpillar, bee)

3. Find a secondary consumer:
   Students should find or point to an organism that eats a primary consumer (bird, squirrel)

4. Find a decomposer:
   Students should find and stand next to a fungus that breaks down dead plants and animals into new soil.
Math Skills
Social Studies
Language & Performing Arts
Art
(Loud) Science Experiment

• How many pennies does it take to break open a nut shell?
• 2’ section of PVC wide enough to accept a soup can
• Various nuts: pistachios, pecans, walnuts, hazelnuts, (peach pits)
• Determine average across all groups for each nut (pistachio = 0, peach pits = hundreds)
Bean Sorting Map

- Classification skills
- Uses 15-bean soup mix
- Use as example before having students create dichotomous keys
Soil introduction

Modified “Red Rover” game
Parts of the Plant

- ROOTS
- STEMS
- LEAVES
- FLOWERS
- FRUIT
- SEEDS

Sing it!
Grow fun plants
Snacks
Saving space
Make your own greenhouse and self-watering planter
“If we really want new learning to ‘stick,’ students must be doing. Real learning is not a spectator sport.”

- Kendell Dorsey, Principal at Winton Woods Elementary School in Cincinnati, OH