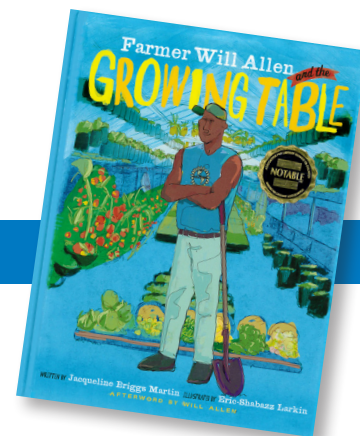


Farmer Will Allen and the Growing Table



RIF EXTENSION ACTIVITIES FOR EDUCATORS

STEAM-THEMED: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ART, MATH

SCIENCE, ENGINEERING WIGGLY WORM FARM

Materials: 2 liter bottle, 16 oz. water bottle, sand, dirt, food scraps (carrot peels, leafy vegetables), newspaper, rubber band, old netted stocking, dark paper, spoon, scissors, 4 worms

Cut the tops off each bottle. Put a few spoonfuls of sand in the 2 liter bottle. Place the smaller bottle inside the 2 liter bottle. Have students alternate spooning layers of sand and dirt in the 2 bottles. Add table scraps and moistened newspaper to the top layer. Leave about 4 in. empty at the top. Add worms and cover the 2 liter bottle with a piece of stocking. Secure with rubber band. Cover the outside of the bottle with the dark paper. Be sure to keep the soil moist. In a few days, uncover the bottle. Discuss before and after observations of your farm.



TECHNOLOGY, SCIENCE FIND A FARM

Visit www.localharvest.org to find a local farm. What questions do you have for the farmer? Are you curious about how the farm runs, what crops are grown, or what happens to the harvest? Write a letter to the farmer to find out the answers! Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. (If there is only one farm in your area, have students compile letters and send in one envelope.)

ENGINEERING, SCIENCE BUILD A GERMINATOR

Materials: 1 plastic baggie, 1 paper towel, 1/2 cup water, 4 lima bean seeds, stapler, ruler, markers

Fold paper towel to fit inside the baggie. With a ruler, measure 3 in. from the top of the baggie and draw a line across. Staple along the line to create a "shelf" for the seeds. Pour in water; let it absorb into paper towel. Add seeds onto shelf. Close baggie.

Tape the germinator onto a window to gather sunlight. Observe what happens to the seeds. How does the germinator work? Once germinated, seeds can be removed and planted in soil.

ART, TECHNOLOGY FAMOUS FRUITS

Materials: fruit, paper, paint, brushes

Fruit has long been a favorite subject for artists. Frida Kahlo used to paint fruits from her garden in Mexico. Have students visit www.fridakahlofans.com/c0640.html for a look at her work. Bring in fruit and allow students to arrange it for a still life painting. Encourage them to incorporate a message into their pieces as Frida did.

MATH, SCIENCE VEGGIE BUFFET

Materials: vegetables that can be eaten raw, dip (optional), plastic knives, plates

Split students into groups; each group is responsible for one type of vegetable. Have groups identify if their vegetable is part of the root, seed, flower, or leaves of the plant. Have them wash and cut the vegetable into small pieces. Let everyone try at least a bite of each vegetable. Which type of vegetable did the class like best: seeds, roots, flowers, or leaves? Have each group make a different kind of graph or chart to represent the class data.



Reading Is
Fundamental