

RATIONALE

The garden will provide

- an opportunity for students to take the time to learn to look, find and interpret their environment for themselves.
- optimism and hope for the future as students nurture their garden and reap the results of their labour.

METHODOLOGY

Learning is based on:

- experiential, real life, practical, tactile activities
- the concept of increasing spirals of learning and growth

PRINCIPLES

- **PERCEPTION**
 - Observation of natural systems
 - Arousal of senses
 - Appreciation of nature's complexity
- **RESPONSIBILITY**
 - Towards the earth and people
 - Working in partnership with nature
 - Completing what you have begun
- **TRANSFORMATION**
 - Understanding and working with change
 - Designing with nature

BASIS OF ACTIVITIES**OBSERVATION**

- Of patterns, cycles, habitats etc
- In school and local environment
- By monitoring, mapping resources etc

GATHERING

- plant materials: eg mulch, seeds, wild food, cuttings, craft materials
- recycled construction materials
- from home and local community eg businesses, neighbours

CONSTRUCTING

- Growing areas: eg, trellis, beds
- Paths, bird feeders,

GROWING

Diversity of plants:

- Multicultural, local indigenous
- seasonal food, unusual varieties

Practical skills:

- propagating: seeds, cuttings
- planting: garden beds, pots
- Harvesting: food, seed
- Management: soil, pests

MAINTENANCE

Tools:

- care: storage, cleaning
- use: work rhythms, efficiency, safety

FOOD PRACTICES

- Value adding: Preserving and storing
- Wild collection and identification
- Eating: fresh; seasonal; festival times
- Sharing the harvest: gifts and produce for sale

OUTCOMES**SOCIAL SKILLS**

Personal: (in context of communal)

- Discernment
 - Awareness of many choices
- Initiative and motivation
- Optimism and hope

Communal:

- team awareness
- sharing responsibilities
- helping others
- generosity and fairness

PHYSICAL SKILLS:

- Fine and gross motor coordination
 - learning to organise themselves in a 3 dimensional way
 - orientation in space

PRACTICAL KNOWLEDGE

- Natural cycles and rhythms (eg, decay – abundance – decay)
- Growing food
 - Collecting seed
 - Propagating plants
 - Harvesting, storing food
- Soil care
- Nutrition
- Sense of place and resources it offers

ST MARTIN'S GARDEN ANNUAL CURRICULUM (6.5 hours per year)

8/1/02

	WALK (Observe, resource collection)	SOIL	PROPAGATE	PLANT	CARE CYCLE	HARVEST	PROCESS HARVEST (store, preserve)	EAT	MAKE A GIFT	CONSTRUCT AND MAINTAIN	ENV. SCIENCE CURRIC- ULUM
Rec W/ Sp	Look for "decomposer" insects • use magnifying glass to watch snails	compost • build in layers • Keep wet • Use soft stuff • Feel heat	Root runners • Mint in jars • Bulbs	Plant name in mustard seed Seedling for summer garden • Radishes	Put out compost Snail watch	How to pick • Outer leaves • Cut flowers	Sorting seeds and packeting winter seed	Drink mint tea Steam potatoes	A pot of bulbs	Re-mulch paths with sawdust	COMPOST • Organic • Recycle waste material
1 Sp/ Su	Look for birds near water and food, identify	Mulching • Materials • Thickness • Feel wet and heat under	Root division • Chrysanthe- mums Plant native seed in tubes	Summer seedlings to beds	Watering properly Observe cabbage moths	How to collect and dry seed • Radish • poppies	Stripping leaves and petals to dry for pot pourn	Xmas grain Star biscuits	Rosemary bottled herb vinegar	Feed birds Make feeders (fat cake)	WATER • cycle • use HABITAT • hermit crab
2 Su/ Au	Collect compost materials	Compost • Straw • Weeds • Manure • Recycle Gedye bins and paper	Rooted segments • Thyme • penstimon	Winter garden seedlings and large seed	Weed Dig in compost	How to pick zucchini Dig potatoes	Beetroot pickle	Mescun salad	A pot of chrysanthe- mums	Oil tool handles and blades	3R'S • reduce • reuse • recycle SHADOWS • energy • sun/ sundial
3 Au/ W	Plant trees in school or neighbourhood (deciduous)	Worm compost • Identify eggs	Trays of sprouts • Alfalfa • Mustard • sunflower	Green manures in bed and chook yard	Prune perennial bushes	Collect grain seeds for chook yard	Green tomatoes in straw Sort summer seeds	Pumpkin scones with sprouts	Pot pourn (scents)	Weather station • Sun balls • Rain • Heat	EROSION • Overgra • weather Solar system Earth's place
4 W/ Sp	Collect wild rose hips for tea and chicory flowers Look at water forms	Make cow patty pit	Summer seedlings in hot house	Early spring seed planting in beds	Clean spent winter plants Put in cow pat pit	Herbs and flowers to dry for teas Winter veg picking	Pickled dion radish	Mulled rose water and lemon cordial	Packeted mixed herbs and flower tea	Dig up old paths and put onto beds	WATER • service • uses BIOSPHERE • pollution ozone, greenho
5 Sp/ Su	Observe invertebrates in and on water. Pick reeds	Clean out chook yard for compost	Tip cuttings Winter seedlings • Brassicas • Silverbeet • lettuce etc	Summer planting in beds	Weed and mulch Slugs to chooks	Leaves to feed chooks. • silver beet • lettuce etc	Press flowers	Lavender biscuits	Make paper from recycled paper and bulrush with dried flowers	Set up root boxes and observe nitrogen nodules on beans	ECOSYSTEM • food web • flora/ fauna interact
6 Su/ Au	Collect native seeds	Use rock dust in compost Elements, earth, air, fire and water	Semi-hardwood cuttings • Fuschia • currant bush	Winter garden seeds in beds	Clear beds and dig for winter Make manure water	Sunflower seeds for sprouting Go fruit picking	Put apples to dry	Straw- berries	Clove orange	Set up liquid manure barrels • Nettle • comfrey	ROCKS • types, sizes, textures RIVER MURRAY
7 Au/ W	Plant wetlands trees and reeds	Make potting soil using worm castings and compost	Hardwood propagation • Roses • grapes	Perennials • Herbs • Food shrubs	Thin seedlings Pinch out tops	Gourds: • Decorate • Make bowls etc	Pickilly pickle	Potato cakes with herbs	Gourd items	Set up trellising for beans and peas	DARWIN • Adaptati RIVER MURRAY