

Hi Families!

Welcome to our next unit, Plants! This week children move from exploring the properties and uses of water to observing and learning about different kinds of plants! Enjoy.

Miss Trish's Weekly At Home Lesson Plan

Week of: May 11TH Theme: Plants

Letter of the week: Cc

Essential question: How do plants grow and why are they important?

Free Play / structured play	While your child is playing you can encourage them to use their senses to observe the materials around them and then use their observations to make predictions about what might happen if they manipulate the materials. Play is an important vehicle for developing a variety of skills such as self-awareness. During play see if your child can answer some of the following questions <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. What are plants?2. What do plants need and where do we find them?3. What are some different kinds of plants?4. Why are plants important?
Circle time	Morning song, weather, calendar, letter of the week, counting, shapes, sing-a-long, story time
Read aloud	Click the link below to watch the Story & read the book Underground by Denise Fleming https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EyYoioomv-E Lola Plants a Garden by Anna McQuinn https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JABc22rJ4u8 A Seed is Sleepy by Dianna Hutts Aston https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9_vElnekJzl Seed to Plant by Kristin Baird Rattini https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o1EE7AojPAw Ocean Sunlight: how Tiny Plants Feed the Seas by Molly Bang. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TY9QL7fL45E <i>*questions to ask your child while reading <i>Tell me about this book. What do you like about it? What is your favorite part of this book? Why? What do you notice? What do you think is happening? What will happen next? Does that remind you of anything?</i></i>

Sensory play

Soil and Seeds: Add potting soil and seeds to the sensory table as well as gardening tools such as gloves, small spades, trowels, rakes, watering cans etc. Invite children to play with the materials and observe the seeds over the course of a few

Seaweed: Add plants or seaweed (plastic or real, if available) to the water in the sensory table along with pretend fish, toy boats etc. Invite children to talk about the different places they can find plants and discuss why plants grow in the bottom of oceans, rivers, lakes etc.

Frog Pond: Use green foam pieces to create water lilies, add them to the water in the sensory table along with toy frogs and invite children to play in the pond

Plant Parts: Place an assortment of plant parts in a sensory table or supplemental tray or bin. Invite children to explore. Consider adding flowers, stems from various plants, a variety of leaves, bark from trees, small twigs as well as roots. Supply paper and writing utensils as well so children can draw or write about their observations.

Build a Greenhouse: Add empty, clean, clear plastic recycled containers such as berry containers, 2-liter bottles cut in half, take-out containers etc. as well as small cups or planting containers, dirt or soil and seeds to the sensory table for children to use to create their own greenhouses. Use the word greenhouse frequently as children play and create. Consider hanging pictures of greenhouses on the wall near the sensory table and be sure to offer a description of greenhouses and their purpose. Also include paper and writing utensils if children would like to name and create a sign for their greenhouses.

Arts & Crafts

Paint Flowers: Hang pictures of famous paintings of flowers near the easel (such as Sunflowers by Claude Monet, Twelve Sunflowers in a Vase by Vincent Van Gogh, Poppy by Georgia O’Keefe, Flowers by Andy Warhol or Garland of Flowers by Auguste Renoir). Invite children to reflect on these paintings. Consider providing prompts such as, “What do you notice in this picture?” and “How does this picture make you feel?” After children reflect, they can paint their own pictures of flowers.

Floral Still Life: Provide or create a floral arrangement for children to carefully observe and then paint or draw what they see with various mediums (e.g., charcoal or oil pastels)

Plant Stamps: Provide parts of plants such as flowers or leaves, invite children to dip them into a small amount of paint and press them onto a piece of paper similar to a stamp.

Paper Flowers: Supply pipe cleaners as well as tissue paper circles (several inches in diameter). Children can pierce the middle of the tissue paper circles with the pipe cleaner, adding as many as they would like, then fold the circles up to create a flower.

3-D Plants: Invite children to use recycled materials such as cardboard boxes or tubes and empty, clean food containers, to create three-

	dimensional plants. Supply live plants, plastic or silk plants or pictures of plants for children to reference as they build their own plants. Encourage children to name the plants and make their own labels for them.
Movement/outdoor	<p>Plant Study: Choose a nearby tree or plant for the class to observe. Provide paper and writing utensils for children to record their observations through drawing and/or writing. Encourage children to observe the plant/tree carefully and notice differences from observation to observation. In spring, focus on when trees begin to form buds and when the buds open to produce leaves. In fall, watch the leaves change color and fall from the tree.</p> <p>Plant Count: Invite children to tally the number of plants they can find on a walk or outdoor space. If children would like, they can also draw pictures or write the names of the plants.</p> <p>Community Walk: Go on a community walk. Encourage children to note what plants they see on the walk. Highlight any plants you see that are also on the vocabulary list such as evergreen, bush, flower and grass. Consider inviting children to bring a clipboard, paper and writing utensil on the walk to record their observations independently. When you return to the classroom, encourage children to refer to their notes and write or draw about the walk and the plants they saw.</p>
Table top activities *all worksheets are attached on our website	<i>Print and complete the worksheets for the week attached on our website!</i>