

Leaves as Solar Light Wave Collectors: comparing leaf area, counting in 10s

After observing the progress of our Lab Lab, Nigella, and Milkweed Seedlings, and noticing their first leaves (cotyledons) and new leaves, and veining, we discussed how leaves are solar light wave collectors, and how they use the energy from the sun's light waves to help themselves grow!

We observed giant rubarb and slender rosemary leaves side by side in the garden, and compared their different size, shape, and quantity. The first-graders collected their own specimen leaves, traced them on 1cm square graph paper, and then colored in the squares in batches of 10 plus ones and halves to estimate the area of the leaves in centimeters squared! They noted the name of the leaf (if known) and the final leaf area tally.







