

Seed Pod
Counting & Measuring in the Garden

2018 October

2nd Grade Garden Parent Outdoor Lesson #3

Objective: To reinforce larger number counting & concepts of measurement and scale (cm vs. m) in the school garden. To begin to collect seeds and seed pods for a 2nd grade seed library. Start to notice which plants' seed pods are starting to dry out. Continue to make observations about seed pod attributes: shape, number of points/sections, jagged or smooth, heavy or light, size, texture, color. Harvest Specimens, COUNT Seeds, draw seed pods and seeds, compose fictional story-poems.

Time/location: The entire lesson can be done in 35-45 minutes in the school garden.

Materials: Egg carton container to help students count in 10's. Envelopes, worksheet, clipboards, pencils

Poem: Seeds (unknown internet)

Book: A Seed Is Sleepy, Diana Hutts Aston & Sylvia Long / *Look for other literature on Okra/ seeds/ seedpods..*

<https://www.gardeningknowhow.com/edible/vegetables/okra/how-to-save-okra-seeds.htm>

The Lesson:

Part 1 / Seed Harvest & Count 30-35 min In pairs, each team receives an egg carton, and two clipboards with the seed collecting worksheet. They find and take 1 specimen of the assigned seed pod (**Okra**)

Notice, which seed pods are dry, and which are still fresh (many plants have a mix due to the wetter, warmer late summer/ early fall)

A worksheet will guide them through some math and literacy exercises:

1- work together in pairs to dissect the pods, count seeds in groups of 10's and 1's.

2- Use pinky to estimate *the length of the okra pod (in cm)*

3- Use your arms to estimate *the length of the assigned plant bed (in m)*

3- Draw seed and seed pods, notice the color/texture difference between the purple pods (summery), and the dried pods (fall)- why do you think both are occurring on the same plant? What does this season feel like?

4- Compose their own fictional seed story-poem about their seed.

Follow Up For Next Class We'll collected and save the seeds and pods. In a follow-up activity, they can use their worksheet to design their own seed packets. Potentially using the pods for making prints. We can will try planting the seeds or beans from seed in the late winter.

Part 2 / Poetry & Movement (September) 5 min Gather in a circle, and read this poem with a pantomime movement exercise.

Seeds, Author Unknown

Seeds are funny, funny things,
Some have stickers Some have wings
Some are big
Some are small
Some round and flat
Some like a ball.
Some are hidden inside of fruit
Some in pods or underground roots.
Some seeds are foods And good to eat,
Like corn or beans Or nuts for a treat.

Ode to Okra, by Kevin Young (excerpt), age 47

I like okry cause
it slips, said my old cousin
famously, & I agree—
all the more filled with awe at all
you can do. Wayward
uncle, you grew up like a weed
yet were so much my age I called
you brother—like an eye
or early autumn you stay
red around the edges
& still green
at the same time. Tender
yet prickly, you gave gifts
whenever we needed them most



Your Name: _____

Plant Name: _____

Seed Pod DRAW:

Seed COUNT:

Seed POEM: *Tell a story*

Your Name: _____

Plant Name: okra

Seed Pod DRAW:



Seed COUNT: 62
27cm

SIK
79cm

Seed POEM: Tell a story

Seeds' seeds so many seeds
in the frede coger claws!

Your Name: _____

Plant Name: okra

Seed Pod DRAW:



measures 1.15 ^{cm} _{long}

Seed COUNT: 60

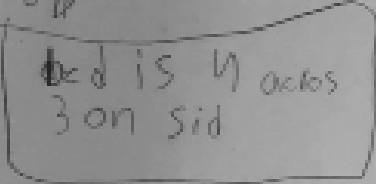
Seed POEM: Tell a story

It's a brown and red color and it grows in spring summer
and some times fall.

Your Name: _____

Plant Name: okra

Seed Pod DRAW:



Seed COUNT: 57

1 1 1

Seed POEM: Tell a story

Okra seeds are 20cm ^{long}
Okra pods have lots of seeds
you think that's all the seeds
but it is really not true.

Your Name: _____

Plant Name: okra

Seed Pod DRAW:

okra

Seed COUNT:

57
57

Seed POEM: Tell a story

A okra plant has lots of seeds!
The seeds are in pods. The number
of seeds is about 40 to 60. If you
want you can eat the pods. The end