

## INTEGRATING THE GARDEN INTO YOUR CURRICULUM

### Fine Arts



### Art

Again using a clipboard, the garden can be the site for many art lessons. Try field sketching with notes of plants and animals found in the garden. Use different media to capture the beauty of the garden, both close-up and as landscapes. The garden can also be the inspiration for other art lessons in the classroom.

### Crafts

There are endless ideas for garden related crafts. [Click here to link to School Garden References for some suggested books.](#) Also attend workshops, get ideas from craft and garden shops, magazines, the Internet, and other teachers. Dried flowers or gourds can be used in craft projects and sold or given as gifts. Names can be grown on pumpkins. Decorative plant or row markers can be made using ice-cream sticks, tongue depressors, paint sticks, or other available materials.

### Music

Learning about plants and animals in the garden can be especially fun for children through singing. Garden themed lyrics have been adapted to many familiar tunes. If a sound system is available, introduce different kinds of music while children are working in the garden. Classical music can become associated with the fun of gardening. “The Flight of the Bumblebee” becomes a real experience and can lead to a science lesson on bees.

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### **Plays**

Not only can plays be written in the garden, but they can be performed in the garden if there is an outdoor classroom area for “stage” and audience. Some garden areas have room for more than one class so that classes can perform for each other.