New

Curriculum Materials

Special thanks to the Northwest Horticultural Society for funding this collection with a generous grant in 2007.


Get an overall knowledge of nature nearby with this mighty mite: flora, fauna, topography, habitats, and the night sky are covered. There's even a guide to the parks of the region. It's available for lending on a "return when finished" basis.
FIELD GUIDES


One of the most welcome trends in education is the emphasis on inclusion in teaching. Each lesson in this book includes specific adaptations to use when students have hearing, cognitive, motor, or visual disabilities. Activities include a habitat hunt, erosion observations, a bird behavior hike, and much more.
Parent/Teacher Resource Collection QH 541.2 .A56 2005


This gorgeous celebration of eggs (from ladybug to ostrich) has the rare ability to be just as breathtaking from across the room as it is from one's own lap. Read it!
Children's QL 49 .A78 2006


With the same format as AN EGG IS QUIET, this eye-catching picture book begs to be read aloud. Each two-page spread details one basic attribute of seeds in a playful and memorable way. For instance, "A seed is adventurous. It must strike out on its own, in search of a less crowded place to put down roots."
Children's QK 661 .A78 2007
Fantastic line drawings and clear, readable text make this full-size field guide invaluable for anyone interested in aquatic plants.

Parent/Teacher Resource Collection QH 541.5 .M3 B67 1997

This is truly one-of-a-kind: a hardcover, illustrated gardening book aimed at kids themselves, not their parents, and written to appeal to boys as well as girls. Chapters are arranged by season.

Children's SB 457 .B89 2006

Intended as a companion to KEEPERS OF LIFE: DISCOVERING PLANTS THROUGH NATIVE AMERICAN STORIES AND EARTH ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN (which is on our wish list), this slim volume contains suggestions and resources for extending and enriching the curriculum with North American Native stories.

Parent/Teacher Resource Collection QK 98.6 .C23 1995

Here are practical ideas for creating, maintaining, and enjoying a Three Sisters (corn, beans, and squash) garden with your family.


Unique in its focus on early childhood (ages three through five), this book gives detailed, innovative lesson plans in a three-step format: Engage, Explore, and Reflect.

Parent/Teacher Resource Collection QH 51 .C42 2003

This updated edition of a classic presents nature activities that are fun, hands-on, and satisfy children's natural curiosity.


According to the author, the word “education” is derived from the Greek for “to draw out.” His teaching philosophy embraces students at all levels of nature experience to uncover their love for the great outdoors.

   Over 300 pages of stories, songs, recipes, and lessons on composting, gardening, and math and science, too. The book is designed for parents and teachers of children in kindergarten through sixth grade.
   **Parent/Teacher Resource Collection SB 321 .D46 1996**

   This adventure provides a new, different, and fun way to learn botany and prevent “plant blindness”: follow Shanleya as she learns the secrets of plant identification so she can know which plants are safe for her people to eat. Using patterns she learns from her grandparents, she paddles her canoe to find plants from several different families: the mints, parsley, roses, mustards, peas, asters, lilies, and grasses.
   **Children’s QK 50 .E57 2005**

   This looseleaf booklet covers the funding, building, and maintenance of kids' gardens, especially school gardens. One chapter details the many ways gardens can inspire kids to work in multiple subject areas, from improving their writing skills by keeping a garden journal to using math to plan space usage and supply needs.
   **Parent/Teacher Resource Collection SB 55 .G54 2001**

   Written by three teachers, this curriculum guide is keyed to national science standards and includes classroom and fieldwork activities. It’s also multi-disciplinary, well-researched, and fun!
   **Parent/Teacher Resource Collection QH 51 .G27 1999**

   Compiled from the best ideas of 10 years of *Green Teacher* magazine, these lesson plans cover nature journaling, classroom animals, food webs, water quality, food origins, forest studies, and much more.
   **Parent/Teacher Resource Collection QH 541.2 .G72 2005**

   Tree activities in six topic areas: tree identification, seasonal changes, research & fieldwork, arts & literature, benefits of trees, and growing a park. Some of these are wonderfully creative: imagine kids designing their own tree costumes based on the tree bark pattern of their choice! The instructions are here.
   **Parent/Teacher Resource Collection SB 435 .H65 1997**

What do broccoli, spinach, artichokes, and cabbage have in common? They’re all green, of course, and they’re all featured in this informative book from the Plants We Eat series. History, anatomy, modern agricultural production, and tasty recipes are all provided.  

Children’s SB 324 .H84 2001


This laminated guide helps average people identify the insects, crustaceans, mollusks, and worms they may find in water samples, and explains which ones indicate healthy streams and wetlands.

FIELD GUIDES


A new edition of a favorite from 1990, this 464-page curriculum guide gives lesson plans for grades 2-6. It covers schoolyard garden design as well as methods of teaching science in the garden.


This fact-filled book about the plants, animals, and climate of the temperate forest biome is lavishly illustrated with drawings, maps, and photographs.

Children’s QH 541.5 .F6 J64 2004

Junior Master Gardener Program. **JUNIOR MASTER GARDENER HANDBOOK: LEVEL 1.** College Station, TX: Texas Agricultural Extension Service, 1999.

This 185-page workbook provides self-guided learning opportunities for third through fifth graders. May be used with or without the Teacher/Leader Guide featured below.

Parent/Teacher Resource Collection SB 55 .J86 1999

Junior Master Gardener Program. **JUNIOR MASTER GARDENER TEACHER/LEADER GUIDE: LEVEL 1.** College Station, TX: Texas Agricultural Extension Service, 1999.

Designed to work with the Junior Master Gardener programs for children in grades 3-5, these lesson plans and worksheets provide games, activities and teaching techniques for ecology, botany, gardening, insect identification, and much more.

Parent/Teacher Resource Collection SB 55 .J86 1999b

Junior Master Gardener Program. **JUNIOR MASTER GARDENER TEACHER/LEADER GUIDE: LEVEL 2: OPERATION THISTLE.** College Station, TX: Texas Agricultural Extension Service, 2002.

Fresh and relevant for students in grades 6-8, these lesson plans and worksheets provide games, activities, and teaching techniques for botany, plant physiology, propagation, and much more.

Junior Master Gardener Program. **JUNIOR MASTER GARDENER: WILDLIFE GARDENER.** College Station, TX: Texas Agricultural Extension Service, 2004.

Produced through a partnership between the Junior Master Gardener program and the National Wildlife Federation, this 230-page treasure provides games, activities, and wildlife garden guidelines.

**Parent/Teacher Resource Collection SB 55 .J86 2004**

Junior Master Gardener Program. **LITERATURE IN THE GARDEN.** College Station, TX: Texas Agricultural Extension Service, 2005.

Each unit uses a picture book as its foundation, and then branches out to teach gardening skills, botany, soil science, community spirit, ecology, math, and much more. For example, the unit featuring TOPS & BOTTOMS (by Janet Stevens, available at SB 455 .S84 1995) begins with the funny story of Bear and Hare trying to divide the harvest and ends up teaching field study, potato gardening, variables and constants, and plant anatomy. Wow!

**Parent/Teacher Resource Collection SB 55 .J86 2005**


Practical schoolyard nature observation lesson plans combine with useful bonus resources, such as “Appendix C: If You Find an Injured Animal” and “Appendix F: Native Plants in Elementary School Learning.” Designed for grades K-8.

**Parent/Teacher Resource Collection QH 51 .K57 2007**


The Take a Walk books from Jane Kirkland are unique and fascinating. Written for either individual kids and families or school groups, they teach nature study in a down-to-earth, hands-on, inclusive style.

**Children’s QL 681 .K57 2007**


Another Take a Walk book from Jane Kirkland. This one would be a great jumping-off place for a teacher planning to work some nature study into a city field trip. Kids who love to observe will love these books!

**Children’s QH 55 .K57 2007**


Jane Kirkland’s friendly style and encouraging attitude appeal to kids at all stages of nature education. Text and pictures show how to identify different trees and what to observe when making field notes.

**Children’s SB 436.8 .K57 2006**


The author tells kids how, where, and when to find butterflies and dragonflies, as well as how to identify them, all the while demonstrating and cultivating love and respect for these insects and their habitats.

**Children’s QL 467.2 .K57 2005**

Considerably revised and expanded since its original publication in 1986, this book is filled with fresh, clever ideas based on the philosophy that “children, like adults, learn best when they are having a good time.” Check it out!

Parent/Teacher Resource Collection QH 51 .L56 2000

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This acclaimed appeal for “healing the broken bond between our young and nature” is thought-provoking and inspirational reading for all those who work with children. Especially valuable is the simple idea that children’s mental and physical health improve when parents make sure they have time for outdoor play.

Parent/Teacher Resource Collection QH 541.15 .H86 L68 2005

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This garden-based curriculum is flexible. It could be used complete or piece-by-piece, and provides a unique blend of cultural, historical, and scientific learning.


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This thin booklet is packed with field-tested games and activities, including tie-dyed T-shirts with a turtle design. Fun stuff!

Parent/Teacher Resource Collection QH 541.5 .M3 M27 2006

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Here are over 200 pages of award-winning craft ideas for nature-loving kids, including flower collage, plant dyes, and nature journals. The presentation is clear and attractive, with special notes when a project requires adult supervision.

Children’s SB 449.48 .M27 2003

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Lavishly illustrated with color photos, this book will provide inspiration for parents who want to get their kids gardening but aren’t sure how to begin. Activities, experiments, and craft projects are featured, along with fruit and vegetable gardening ideas and recipes.

Parent/Teacher Resource Collection SB 457 .M28 2005

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Parents will love the big, bold photos, informative text, and fun projects in this colorful book. Many of these ideas could also be used in a schoolyard setting.

Parent/Teacher Resource Collection SB 454.3 .W5 M59 2004

The DK Eyewitness Books are wonderful for their giant photos and in-depth information, and INSECT is no exception. A bonus clip-art CD is included.

Children's QL 467.2 .M68 2007


Useful for teachers and parents alike, this booklet provides line drawings of vegetables as well as detailed historical and gardening information on carrots, squash, peas, beans, and other commonly-grown vegetables.

Parent/Teacher Resource Collection SB 324 .N28 coming soon!


This unique book provides guidance and inspiration to students and teachers who want learn business-related skills in their school garden. For example, one featured community created a school farmer’s market where students learn math, gardening, and writing skills by producing crops to sell.

Parent/Teacher Resource Collection SB 55 .N28 coming soon!


Over 200 pages of worksheets, lesson plans, and practical information on welcoming wildlife to your schoolyard are provided in this guide.


This large-format paperback contains nearly 200 pages of water-related lesson plans, worksheets, and projects for students in grades four through twelve.

Parent/Teacher Resource Collection QH 541.5 .M3 N45 2002


Part of the DK Eyewitness Books series, POND & RIVER helps us “discover the amazing variety of plant and animal life that thrives in freshwater habitats.”

Children’s QH 541.5 .M3 P27 2005


Also from the DK Eyewitness Books series, this book is perfect for anyone who’s ever wanted to see the inside of an eagle’s nest or understand how raptors hunt.

Children’s QL 681 .P27 2000


Color photos by William Muñoz enliven all 100 pages of Ms. Patent’s treatment of Lewis and Clark’s botanical discoveries. It is perfect for upper elementary and middle school readers.

Children’s QK 31 .L49 P28 2003

The activities in this splendid curriculum guide were created with ages five through twelve in mind, although many could be used for any age group. “Designed to help children learn about food’s origins,” this book teaches composting, nutrition, and problem-solving skills, with a focus on local food production.

*Parent/Teacher Resource Collection S 661.2 .E2 P28 2007*


Do you need permission-free illustrations for wildlife garden signage? What about a picture to help students differentiate between sedge and reed grass? You’ll find it here, in both paper and CD-ROM formats.

*Parent/Teacher Resource Collection QH 541.5 .M3 P42 2003*

Petersen, Anne. **TEACHING PEACE THROUGH GARDENING.** Seattle: Seattle Tilth, 1996.

Here are 54 pages of exciting, field-tested ideas, including songs, instructions for a worm bin, and a list of edible flowers.

*Parent/Teacher Resource Collection S 661.2 .E2 P48 1996*


The ideas in this book are each adapted to a particular age of child, from six weeks to age 12, and setting, from prairies, woods, and wetlands to neighborhood gardens and indoor classrooms. Activities are organized by age group and setting, making it easy for a teacher, naturalist, or parent to plan a program.

*Parent/Teacher Resource Collection QH 51 .P42 1999 coming soon!*


The National Gardening Association’s curriculum for indoor gardening presents each lesson with an emphasis on observation and problem-solving skills. With different activities suggested for different age groups, the curriculum covers kindergarten through eighth grade.

*Parent/Teacher Resource Collection SB 55 .P72 1990*


A colorful, practical guide to school garden design, this book offers tested, creative themes such as the Rainbow Garden, the Global Garden and the History Garden.

*Parent/Teacher Resource Collection SB 55 .P72 2002*


Using the Douglas Fir forests of the Pacific Northwest as a centerpiece, this well-written book introduces readers to ecosystems in general, the old growth forest in particular, the canopy, the forest floor, biodiversity, and particular plants and animals in our local old growth forests.

*Children’s QH 541.5 .F6 R27 2003*
Simple, descriptive text introduces vocabulary and concepts, including the value of wetlands for water quality and wildlife habitat.
Children's QH 541.5 .M3 R53 2001

This CD and book highlight nature-themed music as a teaching tool for math, science, language, art, and pre-reading skills. Designed for kids up to age five, the book includes tips for including children with special needs and children new to English.
Parent/Teacher Resource Collection QH 51 .S35 2006

An illustrated pocket guide to frogs and toads, this covers everything from poison dart frogs to common North American woodland species. Available to borrow for nature walks and return when finished.
FIELD GUIDES

A slim book in which every word counts, BEYOND ECOPHOBIA delves into child development and makes a case for the importance of spending time in nature early in life, so that we grow up enjoying nature and experience wilderness as more than a distant, troubled place that requires saving. This connection to nature naturally leads to environmental consciousness.
Parent/Teacher Resource Collection QH 51 .S63 1996

Written for teachers, this book explains the psychological and developmental importance of children’s special places, and shows how to take advantage of children’s natural sense of place by incorporating it into the curriculum.
Parent/Teacher Resource Collection QH 541.15 .H86 S63 2002

Colorful illustrations enliven this storybook, which includes tales from China, Guatemala, Japan, India, Nigeria, Israel, and Morocco. Teachers and parents can use these stories as a starting point for discussions on the importance of trees.
Children's SB 455 .S56 2003

Developed in a daycare facility for children ages six months through six years, this hands-on guide provides projects for kids ages three through six, many of which can be modified for even younger kids.
Parent/Teacher Resource Collection SB 55 .S82 2002

These insightful musings on nature and human nature inspire us to make time for outdoor work and play with our children. Sara Stein also wrote **NOAH'S GARDEN.**

*Parent/Teacher Resource Collection QH 541.15 .H86 S84 2001*


Colorful and useful, this book details easy ways to create wildlife habitat in small spaces. The text is written in a clear style directed at kids themselves.

*Children's QL 49 .S84 2004 coming soon!*


Beautifully illustrated and powerful, this story of a girl learning about the salmon life cycle with her dad makes a great read-aloud.

*Children's SB 455 .S89 2003*


This textbook is packed with case studies, maps, and photos illustrating the theory and practice of creating children's gardens.

*Parent/Teacher Resource Collection SB 55 .T25 2006*


Directed at kids but produced with the National Science Education Standards in mind, this kid-sized book explores soil, fungi, butterfly gardening, and much more. It will be useful in the classroom or at home.

*Children's QH 55 .T25 2000*

Teachers College, Columbia University. **GROWING FOOD (LIFE CURRICULUM SERIES).** New York: Columbia University.

This inquiry-based science and gardening program for grades 4-6 includes lesson plans, student activity sheets, background information, and teaching tips.

*Parent/Teacher Resource Collection SB 55 .T42 coming soon!*


These are beautiful, detailed, permission-free line drawings of twigs, flowers, cones, and trees from apple to yew. Scientific names of the trees are included for more certain identification.

*Parent/Teacher Resource Collection SB 435 .D68 2004*


Colorful illustrations and details about the natural history of plants, animals, and fungi, this 559-page book will help parents and teachers answer those wonderful what-is-it questions.

*Parent/Teacher Resource Collection QH 55 .W47 1982*

Developed for ages five to thirteen, these are fantastic activities, and many of them can be done without a garden handy. For instance, kids can estimate how many seeds are in a tomato and then count them to check their estimate, or measure the perimeter of leaves.

*Parent/Teacher Resource Collection SB 55 .W45 2006*


Available to borrow on a “return when finished” basis, this handy little guide makes identifying trees on field trips or neighborhood walks fun and easy.

*FIELD GUIDES*


This slim volume is packed with suggestions for teaching through nature journaling, role playing, and reading the landscape.

*Parent/Teacher Resource Collection QH 51 .Z95 1996*