

Summer Agroecology Fun (K-3rd grade)
Summer, 2024

What:

This curriculum by [Southside Community Farm](#) will offer youth education geared towards kindergarten through 3rd grade students. The curriculum is intended to be 7 weeks long, and focuses on the ecology of the farm. During each class, students will do a hands-on activity, either making something to eat or making a craft to take home.

Materials:

Materials for each lesson can be found [here](#).

Lessons (1 per week):

Herbs

- **Lesson 1 Yummy and Yuck!** Garden taste test & making sun tea
 - Students will start to get comfortable on the farm touring and tasting different edible herbs. Students will learn that there are many ways to use the same plants—like by eating them or by making tea out of them.
- **Lesson 2 What do Plants Need to Grow?** Planting mint cuttings or seeds
 - Students will build a basic understanding of the requirements of plant life by planting culinary herbs in pots, which can be brought home.

Flowers & Pollinators

- **Lesson 3 Flower Power:** Edible flower tasting & petal collage
 - Students will observe (and safely taste) flowers on the farm and start to learn about the pollinators they see. We will discuss “why are flowers pretty?” (answer: to attract pollinators!), and students will explore and get creative by picking flowers and using petals to make a collage or mandala.
- **Lesson 4 Pollinators Everywhere!** Observing and coloring pollinators
 - Students will observe and learn about pollinators through a [scavenger hunt](#).
 - Students will learn about the various creatures that pollinate through coloring:
 - https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1aNNAz_BpTcWazl9ApyQ48HiBOgLNCzye?usp=sharing
- **Lesson 5 All about Seeds!** Exploration, seed saving, and seed craft
 - Students will observe the different kinds of seeds growing at the farm, and will learn about seed saving.
 - “Where are the seeds?” students will explore and each find a type of seed, fruit, or seedpod. They will share with the group about what they found.
 - Seeds are for everyone! We will talk about Southside Community Farm’s seed library and how it works

- Seeds are beautiful! Students will use different kinds of seeds (beans, lentils, etc.) to make a wearable pendant:
 - <https://naturecraftsforkids.com/mothers-day-craft-seed-mosaic-heart/>

Vegetables

- **Lesson 6 Salsa making!** Tomato + pepper harvest
 - Students will learn about veggie production on the farm through harvesting, washing, preparing, and eating a fresh pico de gallo salsa
- **Lesson 7 The Three Sisters:** corn, beans, and squash
 - Students will learn about mutualism and companion planting through story and craft.
 - Students will hear the story of the 3 sisters and connect it to their family and the roles family members play.
 - E.g. “Who here is the oldest sibling in their family, like the corn sister? What do you have to do when you’re the oldest sibling?”
 - “How does your family work together, like the garden?”
 - 3 sisters craft project:
 - <https://www.brainybeginningsnetwork.com/single-post/three-sisters-planting-craft>