



The Garden Project

Garden Party

PARENT & CHILD GARDEN PARTY

PROJECT

The Garden-in-the-Box Parent & Child Event

TOOLS

Box 25cm deep x 50cm wide x 30cm high, 5 small vegetable plants per box, compost, large seeds, watering jugs, giant magnifiers, shovels or cups, markers, glue or tape, popsicle sticks

BUDGET

US\$5-7 per box (1 box per family)

GOAL

Organizing a unique nature-inspired parent & child event by making a sustainable veggie garden-in-the-box

ACTIVITY

Science & Nature with Art

This guide takes you through the 5 key steps that make up the perfect Garden Party- Parent & Child event!

2yrs+
age

60 mins
time

science
discipline



STEP 1: GETTING YOUR HANDS DIRTY

PROJECT

Dirty Hands!

TOOLS

Box, compost, large seeds (fava beans), cups and/or shovels

GOAL

Many children have an aversion to getting their hands dirty, yet it's important for them to get acquainted with dirt in a fun and developmentally appropriate way.

ACTIVITY

- Fill your box half way with dirt and compost.
- Hide 5-6 large seeds in the dirt, fava beans are perfect for this activity because they are large and easy to find.
- Show the children what a fava bean looks like and ask them to look for it in the dirt. This will give the children the incentive to dig their hands deep into the compost.
- Tell the children to break up any hard chunks they find in the dirt as they are looking for the beans (they will need to do this to soften the dirt for the plants to grow). Once they've found all the beans, top up the box 2 cm or 1 inch from the top with dirt.

2yrs+
age

15 mins
time

tactile
activity



STEP 2: ROOT EXPLORATION

PROJECT

Root Exploration

TOOLS

4-5 Small veggie plants per child, giant magnifiers

GOAL

Observe the plants' root systems and understand the role roots play in feeding a plant.

ACTIVITY

- Before planting the veggie plants/ seedlings, it's important to give children ample time to observe plants and plant parts from close-up.

- Demonstrate how to gently squeeze the plant from the bottom, squeezing them out of their little plastic pots.

- Show the children the elaborate root system and explain the purpose they serve.

- Distribute the giant magnifiers to let the children observe the roots from close. Ask them to trace a root as far as they can with their finger.

3yrs+
age

10 mins
time

science
discipline



STEP 3: PLANTING THE GARDEN-IN-THE-BOX

PROJECT

Planting The Garden-in-the-Box

TOOLS

4-5 plants, shovels/trowels/cups, watering spray

GOAL

Plant the Garden-in-the-Box positioning 4-5 plants in the box, so that families can grow their own vegetable garden at home!

ACTIVITY

- Show parents how to make small holes in their compost with your hands and/or garden trowels, the size of the plants you are going to insert in your box.

- Leave enough space between the plants to give them enough space to grow.

- Firm the plants in by gently pressing down around the plant's stem and then water the plants from the base of the plant. Tell the children that plants don't like to be over-watered or have "wet feet".

2yrs+
age

10 mins
time

gardening
discipline



STEP 4: DECORATING YOUR BOX

PROJECT

Personalizing the Garden-in-the-Box

TOOLS

Markers, paper, images of vegetables, stickers, popsicle sticks, tape, glue, scissors

GOAL

Decorating the Garden-in-the-Box serves the purpose to remind children what they have planted, introduces arts & crafts and creates an emotional bond with the box!

ACTIVITY

- Decorate your box by adding labels to your veggie plants and/or the date your box was planted. For children of pre-literacy age, use images of plants (provided) to remind them of what they've planted.

- Other suggestions include adding bees on the labels of plants that require pollinators for the fruit/ veggie to grow and/or the word of the plant written in multiple languages. This is the perfect activity for kids to practice those writing skills!

2yrs+
age

20 mins
time

arts
discipline

STEP 5: ROOT DRAWINGS

PROJECT

Root Drawings

TOOLS

Brown and yellow ink, paper, straws

GOAL

Add an aesthetic element to learning about the roots system

ACTIVITY

- Ask the children if they remember what the roots looked like.
- Next tell the children that you are going to make your own root drawings. Distribute a piece of construction paper to each child and dab a drop of ink at the top of the page.
- Give each child a straw and encourage them to blow as hard as they can, allowing the ink to flow in all directions of the paper.
- Once there is no more ink to blow, add a second color to the page, asking the children to blow in the opposite direction to the ink of the previous color. The result is a beautiful root drawing to take home!

3yrs+
age

15 mins
time

arts
discipline

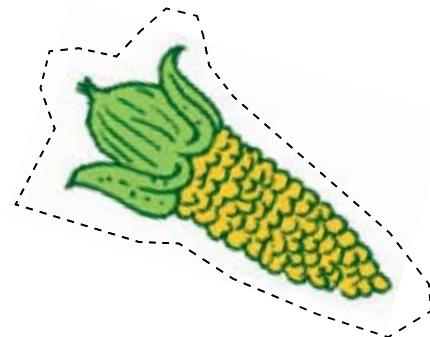
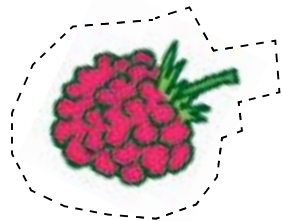
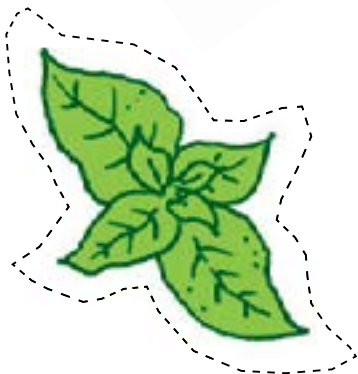
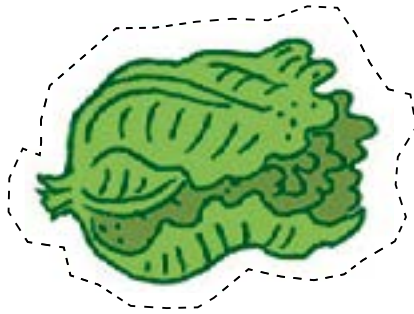
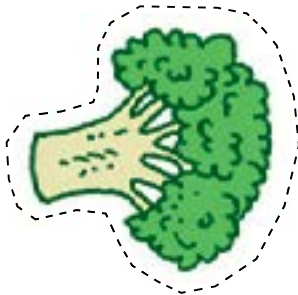
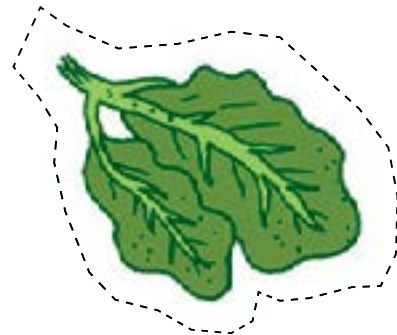
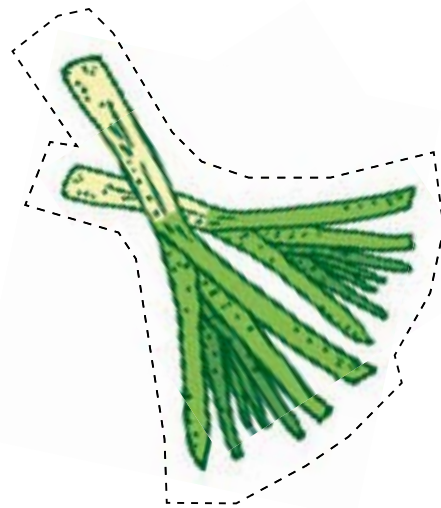
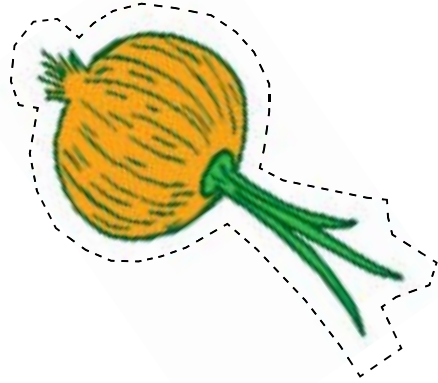
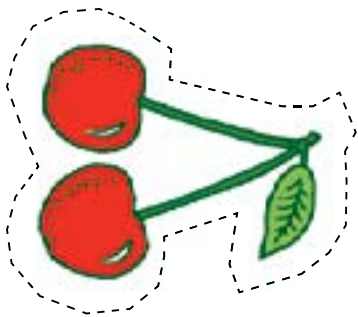
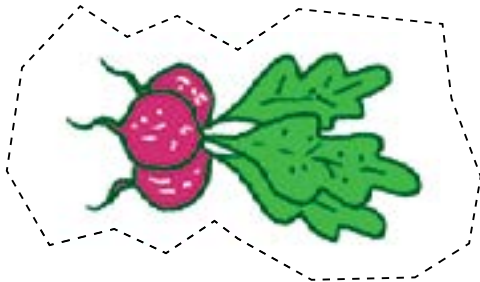
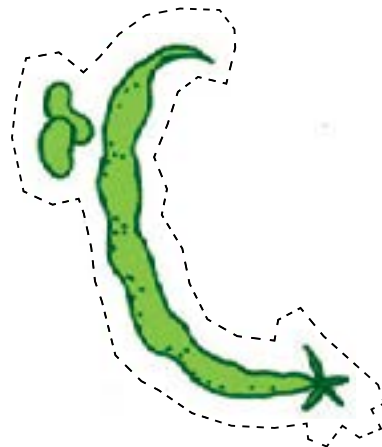
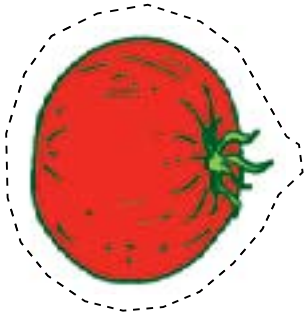
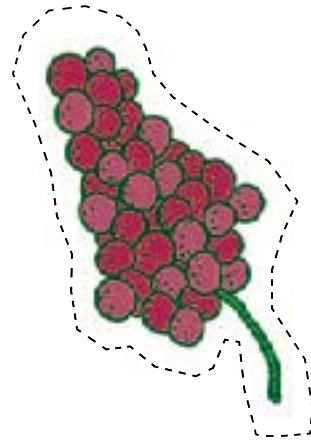
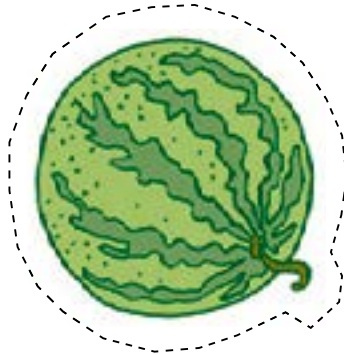
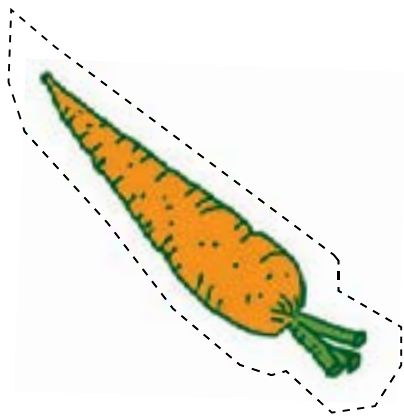
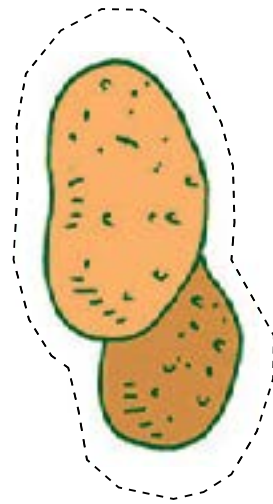
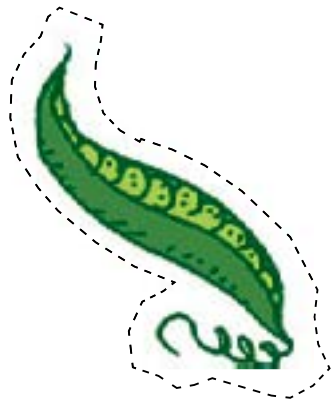
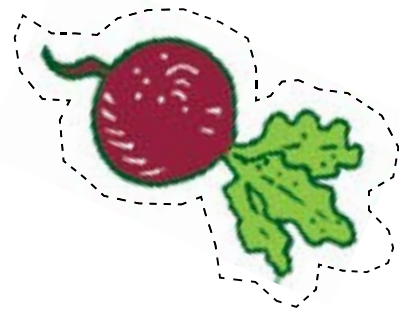
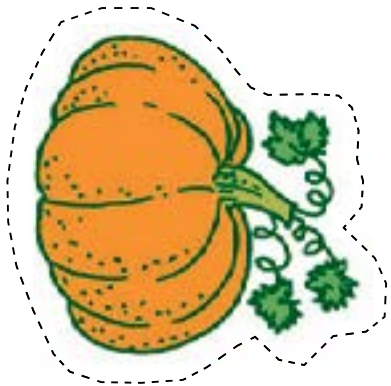
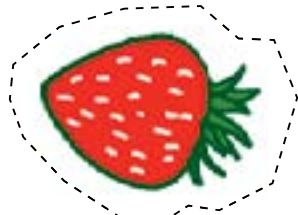
LOCATIONS

You can run the Garden Party in all sorts of places:
from your classroom, in your school garden or even at
your local park!

Invite parents, children and even grandparents in a
bonding experience with Nature!

See it in action: <https://vimeo.com/163361042>







Meet the team behind *The Garden Project*

Email info@hooplaeducation.com for information on how to start
The Garden Project S.T.E.A.M. Curriculum at your school!

START
The Garden Project
AT YOUR SCHOOL