

Suggested Routine for Learning Garden Classes

Outdoor classroom management with a clear, set routine. Everyone knows what to do and where to go at all times.

1. Make work groups and choose leaders in class before coming to the garden.
2. Weather (DASH) in the garden responsibilities – bring equipment to measure.
3. Ask permission, say a prayer, or sing a song to enter the garden in a respectful manner.
4. Enter the garden; always leave bags and things at a very specific designated area.
5. Garden teacher provides a theme or idea for observation (e.g., look for insects, how are leaves arranged, sounds you hear, soil texture, etc.).
6. Two minutes of silent observation. Students should be ten feet away from each other in the garden.
7. Gather back for discussion of observation.
8. Lesson of the day. Ideas for lessons:
 - a. Measurement in the garden.
 - b. Identify living things and non-living things.
 - c. Local plants and uses.
 - d. What do plants need to live?
9. The garden teacher explains garden jobs and projects.
10. Jobs and projects in small groups.
11. Provide five-minute warning to end time.
12. Put tools and materials away neatly.
13. Gather for closing circle – discuss the lesson of the day and how it related to the jobs.
14. Moving poem – say a word or phrase that will express your feelings about the garden, or what you did or learned.
15. Exit in a respectful manner.