



WINTER GARDEN

gardens at school offer children the opportunity to be involved in growing food, to rediscover close contact with nature and understand the life cycle of plants.

Summary	
Object/discipline	Environmental education
Theme	Hobby
Age range	4 years
Main topic	KNOW NATURE
Key concepts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Learn about changing nature (from seedlings to vegetables) through the 5 senses● Respect nature

Training Objectives	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Show interest and curiosity in nature.• Cultivate interest in nature.• Show love, interest and care for plants and animals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Awaken interest and respect towards nature and its wonderful products .• Develop a sense of responsibility.• Strengthen self- esteem: the child sees (and



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore and learn how to protect the environment and nature. • Show willingness to participate in environmental care and protection actions, applying the knowledge acquired. • Stimulate physical movement : digging, sowing, watering, pruning and harvesting develop motor skills and hand-eye coordination. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tastes) the fruits of his work. • learning ability : name of plants, cyclical nature of the seasons, sowing and harvesting times. • Develop organizational skills : organize the space in the garden, manage the timing and frequency of garden care. • Improve mood and promote calm.
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Necessary equipment/materials	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPACE TO CREATE THE GARDEN • EARTH • TOUCH TV • POTS • INTERACTIVE GAMES AND APPS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PLANT • WATERFALL • MAGNIFYING LENSES • PAPER AND MARKERS

Lesson outline		
Lesson phase	Duration	Description
Heating	Half an hour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The teachers explained the activities of the garden to the children also through the stories of the children who can see their grandparents working in their garden
	Half an hour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The teachers and children observed the materials and tools that will be used and found them in this game on the touch TV : • https://learningapps.org/view20338338
Principal activity	Half an hour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We observed the vegetables that we are going to place in the garden on the touch TV to recognize them and compare them with those that the children know.
	An hour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We all went outside together and started with the manipulation of the earth • We removed the seedlings from the pots and prepared them to place them in the soil • The children dug the hole with their little hands, positioned the plant and covered the bottom part with earth • We watered the garden with the children.
	Half an	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Back in class we talked about the various stages of what we did.

	hour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • touch TV game : • https://learningapps.org/view18046850 • We looked at what we used: soil, seedling, water. • Then we understood what is important to grow a plant: earth, water and sun. • With the children we drew these three things on the touch TV • Subsequently we discovered them in the touch TV by delving into them.
	An hour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The children played some games on the touch TV : • https://learningapps.org/view20394318 • https://learningapps.org/view10272245 • https://learningapps.org/view19323654 • https://learningapps.org/view18483719 • FRUIT AND VEGETABLES - PUZZLE (learningapps.org)
	An hour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • touch TV have been recreated in paper form so that children can continue to play them freely
	An hour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With the magnifying glass we observed the seedlings and their growth, marking in a diary the steps that the seedlings slowly take. • We also compared the various stages of their growth and the nature that changes according to the season. • The children played these games on recognizing the characteristics of the seasons on the touch TV: • Seasons of the Year (learningapps.org) • THE SEASONS (learningapps.org) • From the observation of the real plant we moved on to the study of the plant and its parts: roots, stem, leaves, flower, vegetables. • PLANTS (learningapps.org)
	An hour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always with the magnifying glass we observed the insects that approached the vegetables. • When we found one we watched it again on the touch TV to deepen our knowledge and be able to observe it better.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slowly as the vegetables emerged, we gave a small piece to the children to take home and asked their parents to cook them and taste them with them.
Assessment		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing observation of the work carried out by each student. • Teamwork

Conclusions and Recommendations

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The garden has allowed us to let our children " learn by doing ", to develop manual skills and a real and practical relationship with the natural and environmental elements. • It also accustomed children to the idea of taking care of something to make it grow and enjoy the fruits. • The sowing, the care of the plants and the harvesting allowed the children to spend time outdoors in close contact with nature with immediate benefits from a physical and psychological point of view. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It helped small farmers to reconnect with the roots of food and life, but also to discover how the products of the earth reach our tables. • The educational garden has promoted correct and healthy eating : children learn about what they eat and develop a healthy relationship with food, respecting nature, its rhythms and cycles

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