

Garden Rainbow

FIRST GRADE

The first time students enter the garden is the best time to set expectations and also take some time to explore. Students will be involved in the rule-making process, go on a scavenger hunt to match colors in the garden, and then reflect on their time in the garden.

SUBJECT

EXPLORE

TIME

30 MIN - 1 HR

MATERIALS

Read aloud book from the Garden Library

Paint color chip samples of various colors

Blank paper, 1 sheet per student

Crayons, various colors to share

Clipboards, 1 per student

Basket or container to hold color chips

DIRECTIONS

- If your school garden does not have an outdoor classroom with a whiteboard, begin the lesson inside the classroom to make the garden rules.
- Ask students to come up with rules for the garden and record them on the whiteboard. Basic garden rules may include: be respectful to others and your surroundings, only pick flowers, plants, or vegetables with permission from an adult, handle plants and animals gently, only touch animals when an adult says it's okay (never touch spiders or bees), use tools safely, and walk at all times.
- Find a shady spot to read aloud a book from the Garden Library. Ask students what they know about gardens. Why do people have gardens? Why do schools have gardens? Have they been to the school garden before? What do they remember about it? What do they think they'll find in the school garden?
- Place all of the color chips in a basket and shake them up. Next, pull out a color and ask students to name different things in the garden that could match the color. Repeat a couple of times.
- Have students select a color chip from the basket and task them to explore the garden to find an exact match. To make sure, hold the color chip up behind different items in the garden.
- When students find an exact match, return to the basket for a new color.
- Keep searching until students have found every color of the rainbow in the garden. What colors did they see the most of? What colors did they see the least?
- If time allows, have students draw a picture of their favorite thing in the garden on a blank sheet of paper.

SOURCE

Adapted from:

- Growing Minds | [Garden Color Hunt](#)

