Lesson 1c: Garden Design

Concept: Students will be able to use a seed catalog as a resource to develop a garden plan.

Objective: After participating in this lesson, students will be able to:

- Use seed catalogs as gardening resources
- Recognize crops by name
- Create a collective garden plan

Part #1:

1. Refer back to the book *Grandma Lena’s Big Ol’ Turnip* (not included in these materials). Review with the students the kind of cool weather crop that Grandma Lena planted in her garden. Ask the students if they can remember what kind of catalog Grandma Lena was studying at the beginning of the story to help her decide what type of turnip to plant in her backyard garden. (a seed catalog)

2. Display a seed catalog and explain that a seed catalog is an informational guide that can be used to learn about a variety of seasonal crops. It can also be used to help decide what kind of crops to plant in the school garden in the same way that it helped Grandma Lena decide what type of turnip to plant in her garden. Give the students an opportunity to pass around and explore the seed catalog. Locate the cool weather crops shown on the *Warm & Cool Weather Crop Chart* in the seed catalog. Display the pictures of the cool weather crops to show the students how each crop comes in a variety of colors, shapes, and sizes.

3. The students can create their own seed catalogs using the *Seed Catalog Book template* and *Cool Weather Crop pictures*.

Part #2:

1. The students will use their completed seed catalogs as a resource to decide which two cool weather crops they would like to plant in the school garden. They will draw the two crops that they chose from the seed catalog on the *Garden Plan template* and any other additional details of a garden. They will also write the names of the crops they chose and why.

2. Students will share their Garden Plans with the class. After each student presents their Garden Plan they will mark their two crop choices on the *Garden Plan graph*. Have a discussion with the students about which crops on the graph had the most votes and which crops had the least votes. Place a picture of the two most voted crops on the *Class Garden Plan* to post in the classroom and explain that these crops will be chosen to plant in the school garden. Review with the students how they worked together to create a collective garden plan.