Lesson 5c: Seed Saving

Concept: Students will collect seeds from the crops in the school garden to use next year.

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

- Understand the importance of saving seeds.
- Locate seeds that plants have produced.
- Store seeds properly for next year’s garden.

Lesson:

1. Many of the plants that are grown in the school garden produce seeds. Have the students investigate the plants for seed growth. These seeds if picked at the right time and stored in the right conditions can be used as next year’s crop. Only select seeds from plants that are healthy and that are growing with ease in the garden. Observe the plants to make sure they are have not been infested with insects or diseases.

2. Engage the students in a discussion about the benefits of saving and what it means to save. Explain the importance of saving seeds from the school garden crops and why this would be a good saving choice.

3. Use the Seed Packet Template that is provided or use small envelopes to collect and store seeds in. The students can decorate the seed saving packets with pictures of the plant and label them with the name of the plant, its variety, the date the seeds were collected, and the season to replant the seed for next year’s garden.

4. Use a box with a lid to store the seed packets in a cool and dry place. The seed packets can be organized in various ways (by planting season, alphabetical).

5. Consult gardening websites for seed saving tips, such as, which plants are the best for saving seeds.

Materials Needed:

- Seed Packet Templates or Small envelopes
- Seeds from the school garden
- Storage box
- Decorative materials

Time: 30 min – 1hr

Vocabulary:

- seed saving
- storage
- produce
@CraftyGardener

sun / shade / drought tolerant

annual / perennial / biennial

height

Seeds from my garden

Seed name
Join Us!

What: ________________________________

Where: ________________________________

When: ________________________________
Join Us!

What: ________________________________
Where: _______________________________
When: ________________________________

Which food is raw, frozen, and canned?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food: Raw</th>
<th>Which did you taste first, second, third?</th>
<th>Which was your favorite?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frozen</td>
<td>Canned</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Frozen**

**Canned**