

Learning opportunities

This information can help guide an awareness of possible learning that might occur during these experiences. This is not a complete list and learning will depend on how children engage, and how educators respond to this. Please note all experiences should be offered to children, not required of them, to support agency and positive relationships with children.

Gardening

Potential learning opportunities

- Science while exploring how foods grow from seed to eating
- Look at caring for the environment by helping with watering, weeding, etc.
- Sensory engagement with soil, mulch, water, leaves etc.
- Discovering bugs and how they need homes in the environment
- Safety with what to eat and what not to, avoiding hazards etc.
- Developing an interest in trialing new foods when directly involved in their growth
- Learning new words and increasing vocabulary

Potential interactions

- Invite gardening experiences with children when they show an interest so that it happens 'with' them instead of 'to' them
- Discuss their understanding of how food grows and support gaps through discussions and resources
- Encourage children to care for the plants with gentle hands, being careful where they step etc.
- Involve children in the planning, purchasing/sourcing and planting of the garden
- Discuss different types of plants e.g. foods, herbs, flowers for insects

Approved Learning Framework Links

Learning Outcomes

1 - Increasing knowledge and interests; 2 - Caring for the environment; 3 - Physical movement, healthy eating and overall wellbeing; 4 - Engaging with a range of dispositions and skills through the play; 5 - Building communication skills

Practices:

Holistic, integrated and interconnected approaches;
Responsiveness to children; Play-based learning an intentionality;
Learning environments

