



Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

# MINISTRY OF EDUCATION



## ECCE Activity Pack

Week 9 Term 2



Involving young children in gardening initiatives are fun and healthy ways for them to learn about **nature** and **science**. A garden is an interactive playground for children to engage all of their senses. It is where they can touch and taste the fruits of their labour, admire the brightly coloured flowers, grow accustomed to natural scents, and sounds of a variety of plants.



Children will learn how to care for plants as they grow their own foods at home. Gardening is also a fun way children can take care of the environment, interact with nature, beautify their communities by planting flowers, crops, shrubs and trees.

The opportunities for learning new skills while having fun through play are invaluable. When children prepare the soil, plant and tend their gardens their mental health and wellness will be supported especially as families engage in fun activities in the home garden.

They can enjoy nature in places where flowers, trees and crops are grown for the benefit of the community.



### Remote Learning

Time	Activity
9:00 – 9:30	Personal Awareness Preparation for the day
9:30 – 10:00	Circle Time (Online) Discussion about values: Reading stories
10:00 – 10:15	Individual Activity (Online)
10:15 – 10:30	Fruit Time
10:30 – 11:00	Outdoor Play
11:00 – 11:30	Stories / Rhymes
11:30 – 12:30	Lunch Break & Clean up
12:30 – 12:45	Recall – Discussion based on the day's activities

#### Children will:

- Learn new vocabulary and extend language.
- Develop basic knowledge of the land, which is of significance to the germination of plants.
- Develop gross and fine motor skills as they manipulate natural and recyclable materials.
- Develop problem solving skills and mathematical knowledge of subitizing, non-numerical concepts, and number value.

**Materials:** paper, crayons, pencils, playdough, glue, leaves, soil, flowers, grass, clay, pallet sticks, recyclables





## Activities for three (3) and four (4) year old—PART 1



### What is a WebQuest?

A WebQuest is an activity children complete using the Internet to get information on a specific topic.

### Topic - Home and Community Gardens

Involving young children in gardening initiatives, are fun, healthy ways for them to learn about nature and Science.

Select the link to learn more about the benefits of home and community gardens. <https://bit.ly/3Hn6L7z>

Select the link to view how dry coconut shells can be used as a planter. <https://bit.ly/354dmqs>

Select the link below and listen to a story entitled "We Plant a seed" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zx16Kiy7NPI>

Select the link below and listen to a story entitled "Plants Can't Sit Still" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NFHSSq7cmy4>

Following the videos encourage the child to plant his or her own seed or seedling and see the fruits of his/her own labour.



### Monday

### Creating a garden space at home



A garden is a planned space, usually outdoors, set aside for the cultivation, display, and enjoyment of plants and other forms of nature.



- Allow the child to look at pictures and videos about gardens
- Discuss what was seen (plants, flowers, colours, insects, animals) and the importance of gardens
- Encourage the child to identify and clean a space for the creation of a garden
- Allow the child to draw the garden he/she will be creating
- Choose the design and plants that can be planted



### Tuesday

### My Home Garden



- Prepare the space or recycled planters (unwanted plastic bottles, tins, old planters etc.) to create a homemade garden
- Allow the child to add the soil, seeds or seedlings and water
- Encourage the child to care for the plants daily by watering and removing weeds

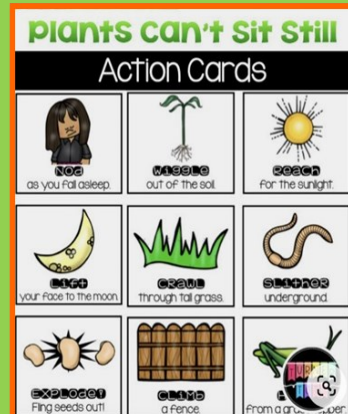


### Garden Yoga

- Follow the instructions as seen in the picture to engage in some simple movements and poses

### Plants Can't Sit Still Actions

- Encourage the child to imitate the various movements from the book entitled "Plants Can't Sit Still"
- \* Nod as you fall asleep
- \* Wiggle out of the soil
- \* Reach for the sunlight
- \* Lift your face to the moon
- \* Crawl through tall grass
- \* Slither underground
- \* Explode! Fling out seeds
- \* Climb a fence
- \* Hop away from a grasshopper





## Activities for three (3) and four (4) year old—PART 2

### Wednesday

#### Creating Seed Balls



Seed balls are made up of seeds, potting mix and clay. Little care is required with seed balls; the idea is that they germinate on their own to become a delightful floral display.

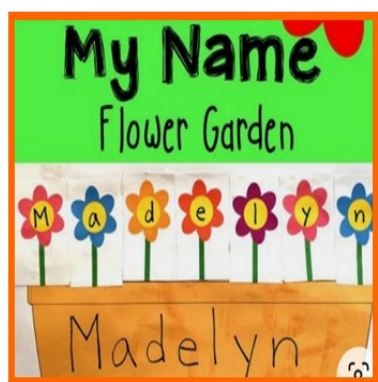
In a bowl, mix together one cup of sunflower or any wildflower seeds with five cups of soil and clay

- Mix in water with your hands until everything sticks together

- Roll the mixture into firm balls
- Leave the balls to dry in a sunny spot
- Plant by throwing the balls at bare areas of the garden or empty land spaces in your community

### Thursday

#### My Name Flower Garden



- Create flowers using construction paper and pallet sticks
- On each flower write a letter to spell out the child's name
- Cut slits on the lid of a shoebox and write the child's name at the front of the box
- Encourage the child to match the letters to spell his/her name

#### Nature Smash Painting



the items found onto the paper

- Allow the child to go on a nature walk to find items with colours (flowers, grass, fruit, dirt etc.)
- Spray a sheet of paper with water
- Encourage the child to use his/her fingers, hands and feet to mash, rub and engage the senses as he/she extract the colours from

#### Stepping Stones

- Create stepping stones for the garden using leftover clay from the seed balls or cardboard cut into irregular shapes
- Place the stepping stones at various spaces and encourage the child to step on each by stretching, jumping and hopping



### Friday

#### Straight from the Fruit Smoothies



##### Tropical Fruits Refresher

- 1 mango cubed
- 1 banana
- $\frac{1}{4}$  fresh pineapple cubed
- $\frac{1}{4}$  cup water
- 1 cup ice



##### Watermelon Cooler

- 1 cup diced watermelon
- $\frac{1}{2}$  cup diced cucumbers
- 1 cup ice

- Choose a recipe or create your own ingredients
- Blend the ingredients together
- Pour into a glass and enjoy

#### Lady Bug Ping Pong



- Create two ping pong paddles and ball using paper plates, pallet sticks and a balloon
- The child can play with a sibling or family member by using the paddles to keep the balloon in the air

# Colouring Page

