

# Intro Week

## Plant Needs & Plant Parts

Learn, Grow, Eat & Go!  
EARLY CHILDHOOD  
week 1

PILOT DRAFT

Welcome to the first week of the *Early Childhood Learn, Grow, Eat & Go!* pilot curriculum!

This is a brief week of content for the pilot project. Week one includes one featured song, one lesson, a literature connection and a journal prompt. While the lesson and journal may take place on a single day, the featured book and song should be used throughout the week to help begin building better understanding of plant needs and plant parts.

After these introductory learning experiences in the first week, **each day in Weeks 2, 3 & 4** will each include 2 lessons, a special activity, literature connection, a featured song and a writing journal prompt. And on a weekly basis, your class will get to enjoy garden-learning connections, food exposures and brain/body boosting activities build around these plant part themes:

week 1: Intro lesson/song/lit connection

**week 2: Seeds & Roots**

**week 3: Stems & Leaves**

**week 4: Flowers & Fruit**

## the Early Childhood Learn, Grow, Eat & Go! garden

The garden your class will create can be simple and inexpensive. Container gardens are an easy and kid-friendly way to grow vegetables. In the **GROW** section of this curriculum your class will be guided to create a garden of at least three large containers to grow several different edible plants parts.

For the **INTRO** lesson on the next page, your class will be learning about plant needs and students will go outside to find a good location that will provide plenty of light the garden (at least 6 hours of direct sunlight) each day.

Find large containers (3-5 gallon size). Lots of different types of containers that can be used. These could be standard plant pots, food service buckets or even rectangular plastic storage bins. If the container does not already have holes in the bottom, drill several holes to allow for drainage.



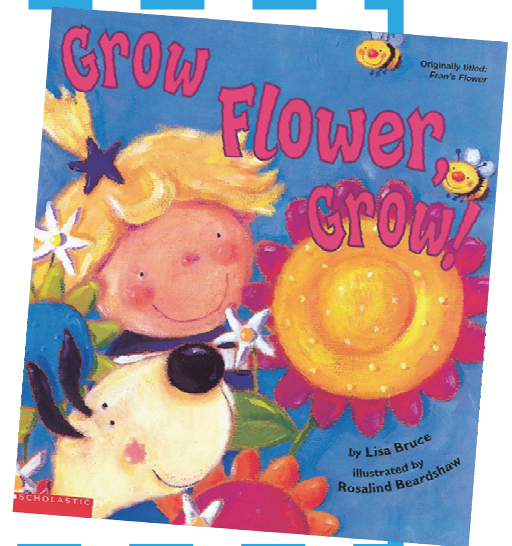
## Literature Connection:

### Grow Flower, Grow! by Lisa Bruce

Read the book, picture walk or discuss daily this week.

Choose one or two questions each time you read aloud or discuss the book.

1. What do you think this book is going to be about? Why?
2. Why do you think Fran thought the plant was hungry?
3. What were some things Fran fed the plant to try to get the plant to grow?
4. What did Fran do when the plant did not grow?
5. What happened to the plant when it was outside? Why?
6. What does a plant need to grow?
7. What was Fran's surprise?
8. Did the plant get what it needed to grow when it was outside?



## INTRO Lesson: Finding a Garden Home

**Objectives:** Students will pick a place for a school garden based on what plants need to grow.

**Time:** 10 minutes

**Materials:** Bag of potting soil, 3-5 gallon container

**Lesson Narrative:**

1. **Take students outside. Look around you. What do you see? Take responses.**
2. **Boys and girls, what do you think about planting a garden out here? It would be so exciting to do together. Take responses. What do you think we need to know before we plant a garden? Take responses.**
3. **We need to know that plants need sun, water and soil/dirt to grow.**
4. **Now we need a place to put the plants we grow. Where should we put our garden? Walk around your area looking for a place for a garden.**
5. **Remember, plants need sun most of the day. Can you find a sunny place?**
6. **Now what were the other 2 things plants need? Soil and Water. We are going to grow our plants in pots and this is one of them. Can you help me add soil to this pot? Have students help fill container with soil.**
7. **Now we need to be close to a water source. Do you see a place we could get water to add to the garden? Take responses.**
8. **Yea! We found the perfect place! Our garden will get sun, water and soil/dirt here! I can't wait to get started!**

Go outside to find a place for the garden to grow.



PILOT DRAFT

**Kids' garden journal prompt:**  
*Draw a picture of the sunshine our plant needs to grow!*

**Song of the week:**  
Lead student to learn the *Parts of the Plant* song with motions throughout the week.

**PARTS of the Plant**

