



CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS

Early Childhood and Lower Elementary: Berry Inspired

Connections to Standards:
Art AR.03.CP.02
Science K.3S.1, 2; 1.1L.1; 2.3S.1

Artists often use nature as inspiration for their work. Share poems and visual art pieces with students to illustrate this. Raspberries are available in beautiful red, purple, black, and golden or salmon colors. Using fresh raspberries as models (don't forget to taste test), mix paint colors and create raspberry-inspired artwork. You can make your own paint using crushed berries, berry juice, cornstarch, a bar of soap, and a grater. See links below for how-tos and color samples. Additionally, you can gather a variety of magazines and cut out shades of red, blue, purple, black, and pinky-gold to make berry collages.

How to Make Paint from Berries
http://www.ehow.com/how_4884547_make-paint-berries.html

Natural Paints
<http://artful-kids.com/blog/2010/09/08/natural-paints/>

Homemade Non-toxic Finger Paints
<http://www.ourbigearth.com/2008/06/06/inspire-creativity-homemade-non-toxic-finger-paints/>

Upper Elementary: Posy Poetry

Connections to Standards:
English Language Arts 3.W.4; 3.L.3; 3.SL.1;
4.W.3, 4; 4.L.3; 4.SL.1; 5.SL.1

Adapt this lesson from Shelburne Farms Project Seasons for exploring and writing poetry about a va-

riety of Oregon-grown berries. Using fresh or frozen berries, clippings of vines in vases, and/or photos of ripe berries and where they grow, have students visit various berry stations around the room in pairs. Depending on what you set up at each station, instruct students to observe carefully, use their senses (you may want to set up tasting stations), and record one word or a short phrase and place it in the paper bag at each station. Once all of the pairs have visited all of the stations, create small collaborative groups for each bag of descriptive words. Working together, students will create a poem using the words and phrases in their bag. Each group will read their poem aloud while the rest of the class tries to guess which berry the poem is about.

Posy Poetry
www.shelburnefarms.org/educationprograms/PosyPoetry.pdf



Middle School: You Be the (Berry) Judge

Connections to Standards:
Science 7.3S.2; 8.3S.2 English Language Arts
7.SL.1, 4; 8.SL.1, 4

In this activity, adapted from You Be the Judge, students role play gardeners or farmers, assessing varieties of raspberries and blackberries at the end of the growing season. They will rate each variety by taste, yield, and ease/reliability and decide which they will continue to grow next year. Sample ease/reliability scenarios and yields are not an accurate reflection of these particular varieties, but it gives students an idea of what farmers need to consider when assessing their crops each year. What are some additional factors they may need to consider? Examples include climate, pests, ease of processing, success in the market, etc.

Vegetable Varieties Investigations:

You Be the Judge

blogs.cornell.edu/garden/get-activities/signature-projects/vvi/vvi-activities/

Resources/literacy connection:

Yes We Have Bananas!: Fruits from Shrubs and Vines by Meredith Sayles Hughes
<http://oklahoma4h.okstate.edu/aitc/lessons/berries.pdf>

High School: Berry Party Planners

Connections to Standards:
English Language Arts 9-10.W.2, 7; 9-10.SL.1;
11-12.SL.1, 5; 11-12.W.2, 7

Work with students to use the Oregon Raspberry and Blackberry Commission's web resources to explore Oregon berries. You can learn facts about berries grown in Oregon, including nutrition information, history, and processing. Consult other

sources as necessary, such as interviewing a berry farmer, to profile Oregon berries or a specific berry using a method of choice (PowerPoint presentation, brochure, farmer or berry trading cards, children's book, etc.). Help students to work with cafeteria staff to plan a Berry Festival in the cafeteria. This might include fresh or frozen berry taste tests, a cooking and recipe development competition, a berry-based cafeteria menu, and more. Students will need to work together to develop an event budget, contact local growers and retailers for donations, schedule facilities, and promote the event.

Oregon Raspberry and Blackberry Commission
www.oregon-berries.com Vermont Junior Iron Chef Competition
www.jrironchefvt.org

Resources/literacy connection:

Yes We Have Bananas!: Fruits from Shrubs and Vines by Meredith Sayles Hughes

