

Practice Planting a 4x4 Garden

Grade levels: PreK-5th

Lesson Summary

Using a 4'x4' brown felt fabric to represent the garden, students can practice spacing out vegetable plants and seeds by laying them out on the felt.

Objectives

- To understand the appropriate amounts of space necessary for different vegetable plants and seeds to be successful
- To get students accustomed to planting seeds and plants at different distances

Tools You'll Need:

- Beet seeds = yellow beads
- Radish seeds = brown beads
- Lettuce transplants = small plants
- Broccoli transplants= tall plants

Procedure

Remind students that the bead seeds and transplants should be planted in straight rows with the appropriate amount of space.

Yellow beads= beet seeds

1. With the measuring tape measure 3 inches from the top of fabric and 3 inches from the side of the fabric. This point is where your first beet seed will be planted. From this point lay the tape across the garden, keeping it straight and parallel to the top of the fabric. This is where your first row of "beet" seeds will begin.
2. Allow students to plant one "beet" seed every 3 inches, stopping 3 inches from the end of the fabric.
3. The second row of beet seeds should measure 3 inches off from first row of beet seeds. Lay the tape across the garden keeping it straight and parallel to the previous beet seed row.
4. Repeat step 2

Red beads= radish seeds

1. With the measuring tape measure 2 inches off from the second beet row. Lay the tape across the garden keeping it straight and parallel to the previous row. This is where your row of "radish" seeds will begin.
2. Allow students to plant one "radish" seed every 2 inches, stopping 2 inches from the end of the fabric.
3. The second row of radish seeds should measure 2 inches off from first row of "radish" seeds. Lay the tape across the garden keeping it straight and parallel to previous "radish" seed row. This is where your second row of "radish" seeds will be planted
4. Repeat step 2



Green transplants=lettuce transplants

1. With the measuring tape measure 6 inches from the second radish row seed. Lay the tape across the garden keeping it straight and parallel to the previous “radish” seed row. This is where your first row of “lettuce” transplants will be planted
2. Allow students to plant “lettuce” transplants 6 inches apart, stopping 6 inches from the end of the fabric.
3. The second row of “lettuce” transplants should measure 6 inches off from the first “lettuce” row. Lay the tape across the garden keeping it straight and parallel to previous “lettuce” transplant row. This is where your second row of “lettuce” transplants will be planted
4. Repeat step 2

Blue transplants=broccoli transplants

1. With the measuring tape measure 15 inches from the second lettuce transplants row. Lay the tape across the garden keeping it straight and parallel to the previous “lettuce” transplants. This is where your first row of “broccoli” transplants will be planted.
2. Pick two students to plant a “broccoli” transplants 15 inches apart, leaving 15 inches from the end of the garden.

Congratulate the students for planting out their seeds and transplants with the appropriate amount of space in straight evenly spaced rows!

Wrap Up Review Questions

How many beet seeds can you plant in two rows?

- 32

How many radish seeds can you plant in two rows?

- 48

How many lettuce transplants can you plant in two rows?

- 10

How many broccoli transplants can you plant in two rows?

- 2

Stand back and look at the garden what do you see?

- More lettuce than broccoli plants
- Smaller space between seeds
- More space between lettuce and broccoli plants

