

## Project

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

### Materials

- Harvest Time Chart
- Clean plastic basket for harvesting Scissors Small Trowels

### Preparation:

- Before going outside, describe the garden rules to the learners. Explain that the garden is another kind of classroom. Engage them in a discussion about what rules would be best to promote respect of the living plants and animals in the garden as well as each other.
- Clearly explain where they can walk and where they cannot.
- Divide the class into groups of 6 to 8. Ask for help from parents and volunteers so that there is one adult with each group of learners.

### Activity

1. Send each group to a different garden plot.
2. Have them observe the plants.  
What plant life stages do they observe?  
Which plants have flowers?  
Which have fruits?  
Which have seeds?
3. Use the Harvest Time Chart on the following page to determine which plants may be ready for harvest. Use the scissors to harvest greens and the trowels to harvest root vegetables.
4. Remove any flowers or seeds that are on root vegetables or greens.

### Harvest Time Chart

PART OF PLANT TO HARVEST	EXAMPLES	TOO SOON	TIME TO HARVEST	TOO LATE
<b>Root</b>	beets, carrots, radishes	Leaves are small, root is thin. If thinning is needed, use young plants as greens.	Root is well formed. Root is showing above ground.	Plant is flowering or has seeds.
<b>Leaf</b>	lettuce, kale, mustard greens	Can always eat leaves, even as micro greens	Leaves are numerous, healthy and tender.	Plant is flowering or has seeds.
<b>Stem</b>	asparagus, celery, fennel, kohlrabi	Stem is too thin.	Stem is formed but still tender.	Stem has lots of leaves, flowers or seeds.
<b>Flower</b>	squash blossoms, cauliflower, broccoli	Not formed	Depends, for broccoli should be tight buds	Flowers are fully opened or gone to seed.
<b>Fruit</b>	peppers, tomatoes, melons	Hard or green	Yields slightly to the touch	Fruit is very soft, fallen on the ground or fermented.
<b>Seed</b>	dried beans and lentils, sesame	Seed pod immature, seeds not fully	Seed pod is plump and dried	Seed pod has burst open or seeds have