



# Teacher Toolkit

Activity: Plants in the Garden- Inside and Out

Presented by: Civic Garden Center of Greater Cincinnati

Grade Level(s) Pre K- 1<sup>st</sup> grade

## Activity Description

Explore plant parts and growth stages with a series of fun activities- involving books, a game and even acting out the lifecycle of a plant!



## Ohio Standards Met

- Science, Kindergarten: Physical and behavioral traits of living things
- Science, Grade 1: Basic needs of living things
- Math, Kindergarten: Classify objects and count the number of objects in each category
- Math, Grade 1: Reason with shapes and their attributes

## Instructions

- Introduction
  - Review the parts of a plant.
  - Ask students to use their senses to describe fruits and flowers.
  - Break into three groups for each of the three stations (or do each station as a whole class).
- Station 1- Observe: Fruit Dissection
  - Ask for examples of fruits and their characteristics.
  - Explain that the job of the fruit is to store and protect seeds.
  - Go over nomenclature cards for the parts of a fruit together.
  - Divide into groups and give each group a pre-cut fruit.
  - Within each group, have them identify the different parts and fill in the 'Fruit Dissection' worksheet.

Thanks to Greater Cincinnati Environmental Educators (GCEE) for collecting activities for the Teacher Toolkit



## Instructions (continued)

- Station 2- Explore: Lifecycles
  - Go over the life cycle of a plant.
  - Act out each of the stages of the plant life cycle.
    - First, there is a planted seed (body in a ball).
    - Second is germination (stick out one leg).
    - Next, roots and stems grow (stretch out straight arms down at sides).
    - Leaves grow (ball hands into fists at sides).
    - Flowers grow (spread out fingers).
    - Sometimes these flowers grow fruit (make circle with thumb and forefinger).
    - You can find seeds in flowers and fruit (spirit fingers).
    - Seeds are then dispersed (return to ball shape) and everything starts all over again!
- Station 3- Garden: Plant ID and Weeding
  - Choose some spring plant varieties planted in the garden.
  - Show examples of the chosen seeds as plants. (Look at them as other points in their life cycle in pictures if possible).
  - Find these sprouts or grown plants in the garden and remove the weeds that may be growing around them.

## Materials Needed

- Station 1
  - Fruit
  - Cutting Board
  - Magnifying glass (if possible)
  - “Fruit Dissection” worksheet (see next page)
  - Tape or Glue
  - “Inside Out Fruit” and “Parts of the Fruit” Cards (see next page)
- Station 3
  - ID images of spring plants with accompanying seeds (of plants in garden)
  - Magnifying glass (if possible)

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**Fruit Dissection**

**Discovering Plants Fruit and Seeds—Student Handout One**

**DATA SHEET**  
**Does My Fruit Have Seeds?**

<u>Name of Fruit</u> Illustrate your fruit	<u>Does This Fruit Have Seeds?</u>		
	Yes	No	
<u>Describe the Seeds</u> (Tiny, black, round, etc.)			
<u>Number of Seeds</u>			



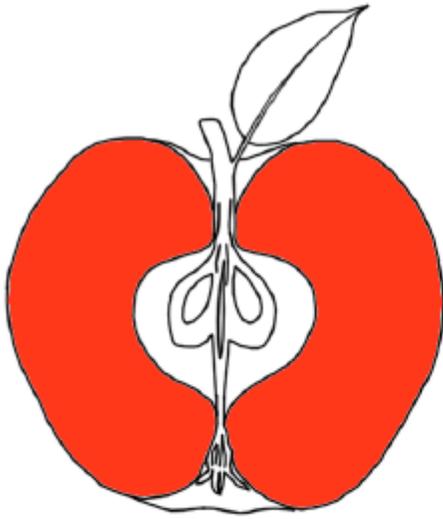


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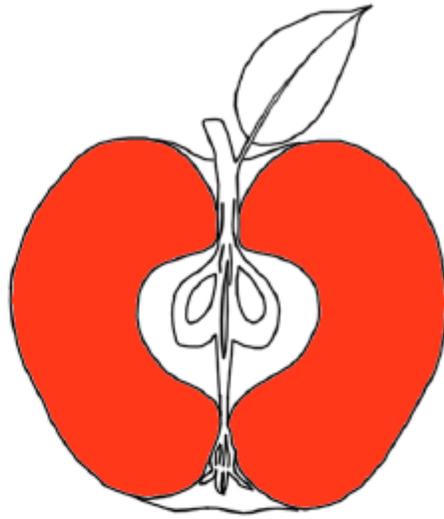
# Garden Lesson: Plants in the Garden- Inside and Out

Season: Spring

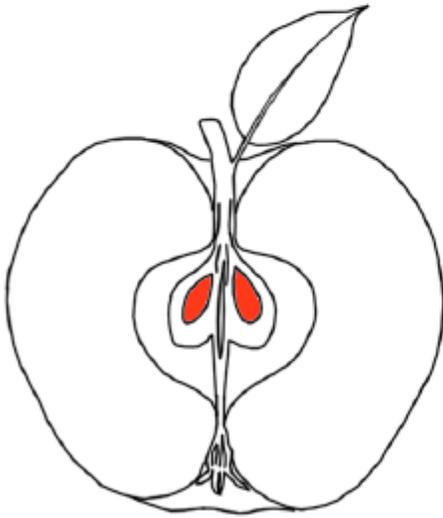
Grades: Preschool, Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup>



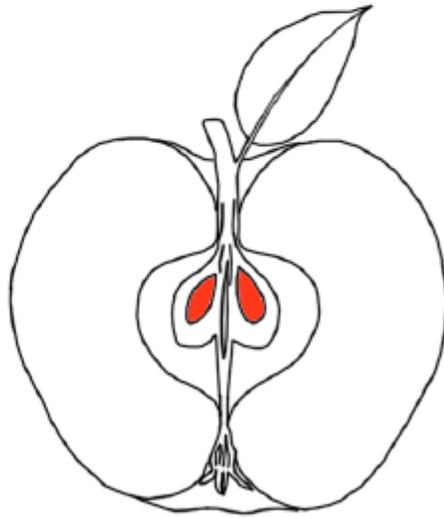
flesh



flesh



seeds



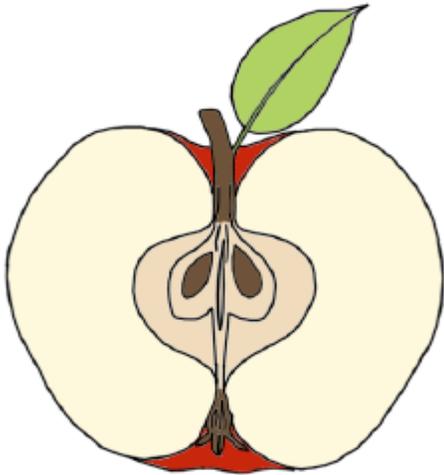
seeds

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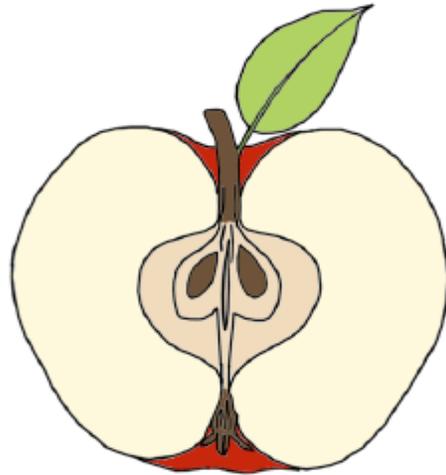




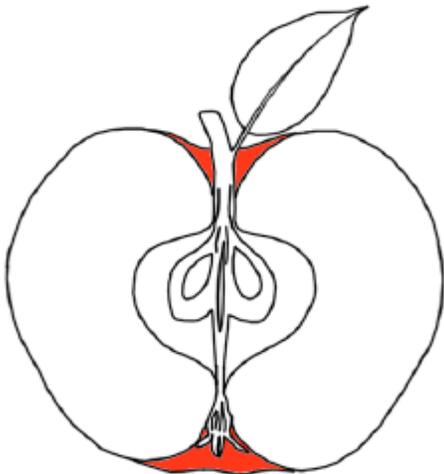
Parts of the Fruit



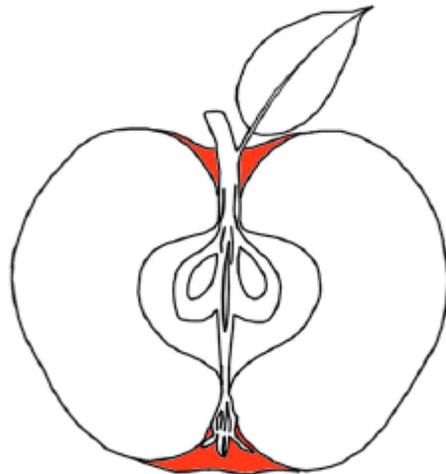
fruit



fruit

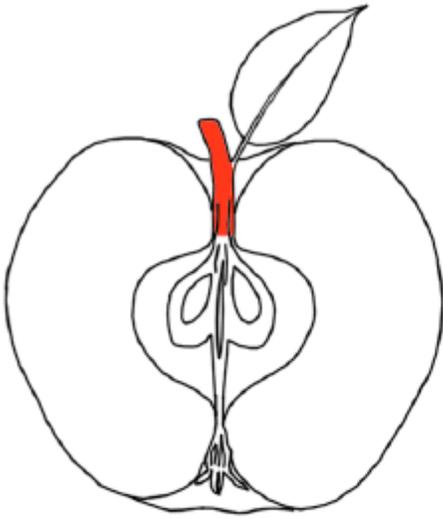


skin

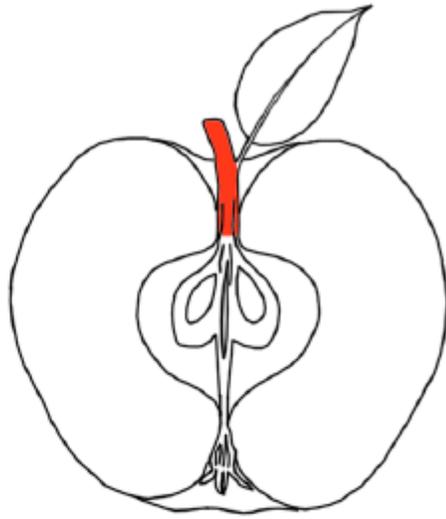


skin

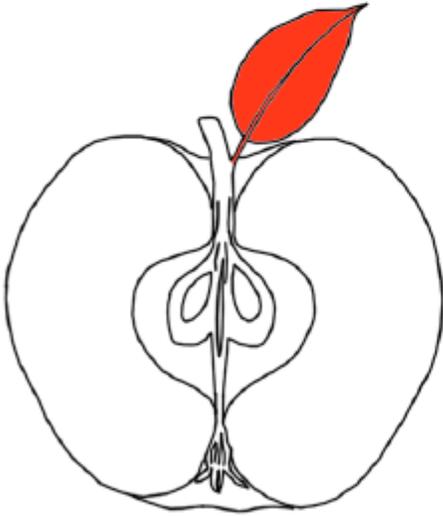




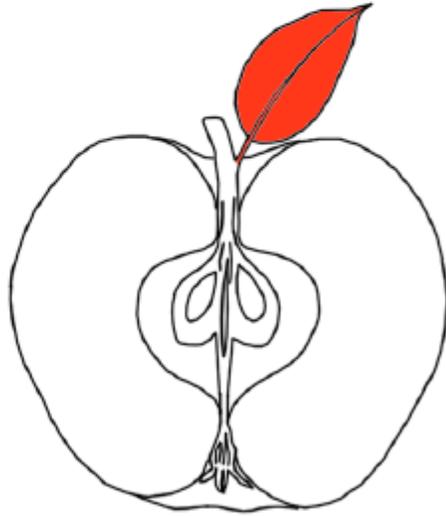
stem



stem



leaf



leaf

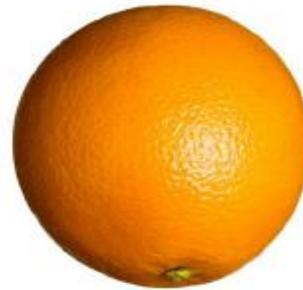
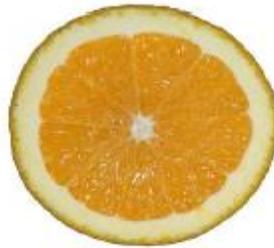
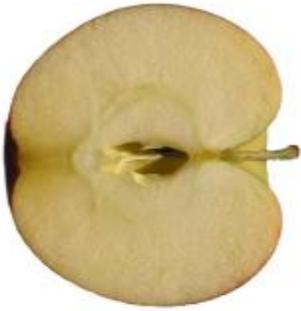


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## Inside Out Fruit



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