



The Three Sisters



Grade Level: Kindergarten – 2nd Grade

Approximate Length: 125 – 180 minutes

Objectives:

- Learn the importance of farmers and their role in feeding the world
- Discuss the relationships between people and the environment
- Explore the process of creating a garden
- Compare and contrast different ways plants grow

Science Standards Available (Teacher will identify which standards to bundle):

- K-LS1-1 Plant and animal needs
- K-ESS2-2 Environmental change
- K-ESS3-1 Environmental relationships (needs and places they live)
- K-ESS3-3 Environmental solutions
- K-PS3-1 Sunlight warms the Earth
- 2-LS4-1 Habitat and biodiversity
- 2-LS2-1 Environmental plant needs
- 2-ESS2-1 Erosion design solution
- 2-ESS2-2 Mapping land and water

Outline for Program:

- **Interest Approach (5-10 min):** Students will start the lesson by working as a team in small groups to create a definition of a seed and then as a whole group we will come together to share our answers, to see how close we are to the actual definition
- **Opening Activity (15-20 min):** Together the group will read “A Seed Needs Sun” and create Plant Needs Bracelets to connect the important factors to a successful garden
- **Presentation (45-60 min):** The students will learn about the importance of farmers and how they feed the world, while taking care of the environment. We will explore the Native American culture, where we learn about a “Three Sisters” garden to grow corn, beans and squash. Together we will make the connection that farmers take care of the environment to grow healthy plants and the healthy plants can feed the animals and then healthy animals can feed people. Next, we will discuss the importance having healthy soil to grow healthy plants, so that we have healthy animals and ultimately be healthy people. The final discussion and activity will cover steps it takes for students to make their own “Three Sisters” gardens and possible ways to incorporate other fruits and vegetables.
- **IQhub Scavenger Hunt (45-60 min):** The IQhub is an interactive museum, that will help the students build on topics they have already learned and grab their attention for some new ones as well. Students can work individually or in small groups to explore the IQhub and learn about agriculture and the environment. This museum incorporates Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) to give students a well-rounded and fun learning experience.
- **Closing Activity (15-30):** Since plants and animals play a key role in each other’s lives, it’s important to understand how a healthy environment effects all living things. Students will get a chance to stretch their legs and see some easy ways to care for the environment and how to create healthy habitats for living things. Erosion, wetlands and environmentally friendly buildings are other topics discussed during this activity.

Additional Resources on IQhub YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oY7bDlvc3t0&list=PLM9jntqmjKUBmVcVfIyTuetzOwK27W3Hl&index=4>