

Harvesting Plants

Connecting Through Play & Culture



Attributions

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BRIDGE - Borrow

Materials:



2 Books



Child Apron



Plush Alaska
Native Doll

Now is a great time to practice counting skills by making sure all of the materials are in the kit!

1



2



3



4



Family Message

Let's Go Harvesting!

Enjoy the abundance your community has to offer by harvesting locally grown plants. Berry picking can become a joyful family activity to do together. Once collected, label and freeze to enjoy these delicious gems throughout the year!

This kit includes:

- Books to learn about berries and plants.
- A doll for snuggling while reading together.
- An apron for cooking together.
- Activities for exploring harvesting in your community.

Enjoy this journey in learning about Harvesting Plants!

Story Time



Plant Harvesting Activities



Design with Blueberry Ink



Career Connection



Got 5 minutes? Read a story or choose a short activity. If you have a larger amount of time, spend 20 minutes to complete the Blueberry Ink Design activity.



Scavenger Hunt:

How many pollinating bugs can you count throughout this kit?



BRIDGE - Read



Sharing Stories

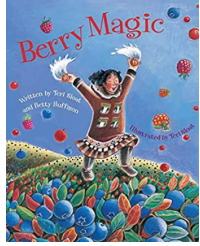
Find a comfy spot and snuggle up for story time!



Picture Walk

Flip through the pages, without reading words, to highlight the illustrations and ask guiding questions such as these:

- What do you think story will be about?
- What types of patterns in the clothing do you notice?
- Where is the girl going at night?
- What types of plants or animals did you notice throughout the story?



Berry Magic

Author: Terri Sloat & Betty Huffmon
Illustrator: Terri Sloat

Ask Engaging Questions

What types of locally harvested materials does she use to make her dolls?

What happened after Anna's moonlit dance in the tundra?

Can you name the types of berries that were created by the dolls?

Which types of berries do you like to pick in your community?



Extend the Learning

Syllable Clap



Crow * ber * ry



Blue * ber * ry



Sal * mon * ber * ry



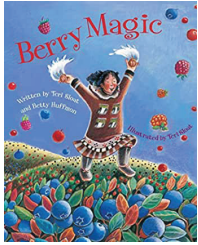
Rasp * ber * ry



EARLY READING SKILL

Syllables

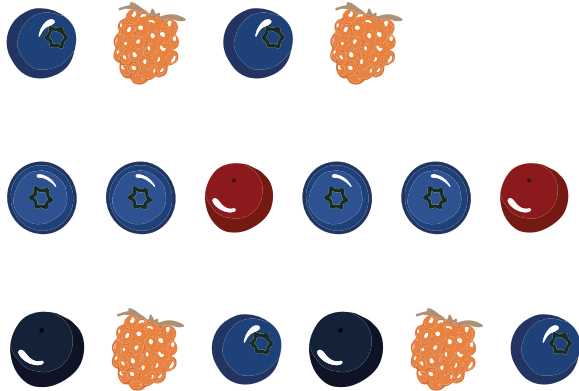
Dividing words into "chunks" accelerates decoding skills, helps with reading more fluently, and supports accurate spelling too!



Let's Read It Again!

Berry Patterns

Sort your harvested berries!
Make patterns with the berries.



Guided Questions

Which berries are your favorite?
How can we work together to complete the patterns?

The 5 Math Areas



- Numbers & Counting
- Patterns & Story Problems**
- Data Analysis & Probability
- Measurement & Math Tools
- Shapes & Spatial Awareness



EARLY MATH SKILL

Patterns

By observing and creating patterns, children develop their ability for making logical connections and becoming flexible problem solvers.



Plants

National Geographic Reader

Author: Kathryn Williams

Plentiful Plants

How do plants make their own food?

How do insects help plants grow?

What parts of the plant do you harvest?

How do you prepare this harvested plant?

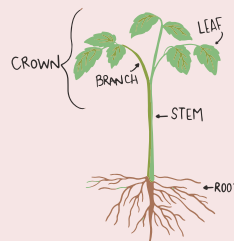
Whose recipe do you use?

Plant Hokey Pokey

You put your right Root in (foot)
You take your right Root out
You put your right Root in
And you shake it all about
You do the hokey pokey and
you grow out of the ground.
That's what it's all about!*

***Repeat with other parts of the plant:**

Branch (arm)
Leaf (hand)
Crown (head)
Stem (whole body)



CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Crossing the Midline

Combining movement patterns that stretch across the middle of the body assists with developing neural connections that contribute to reading and writing!

BRIDGE - Investigate

Honoring Connections

Harvesting local plants has been a long tradition and subsistence activity. Make a simple map of your area and mark your favorite places to check for berries. On your next berry picking adventure, take the map and follow your route to find the gems!

- Recall a time or memory you had while berry picking with a family member.
- Include details such as what types of berries were enjoyed the most.
- Reference the importance of sharing your harvested goods with others.



Cooking Together

Fall harvesting creates many opportunities for learning mathematics!

Pick a Recipe to Try!

Children love to participate in the kitchen.



**Extra Tip: Being prepared ahead of time can make for a joyful cooking experience!*

Guided Questions

What ingredients do we need?

How can we work together to complete the recipe?

Labeling Stored Foods

Emphasize the beginning sounds for each food being stored for winter.



F



B



T

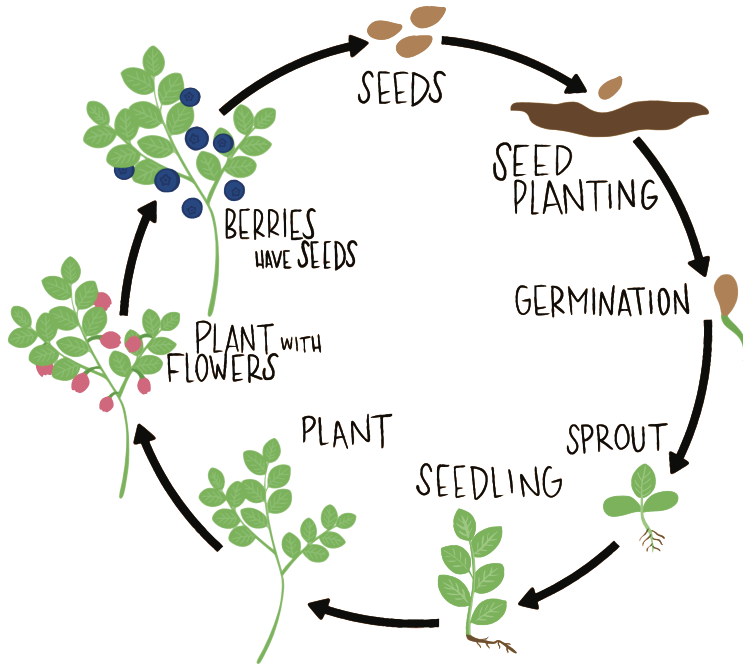


C

What other locally harvested things are in your freezer?

Exploring Life Cycles

Plants are like people in that they change as they grow!



Play I Spy!

During fall harvesting, there are many things to see out in the tundra. Provide clues that will help them develop a listening ear for sounds.

Clues to Share:

- I spy something that begins with a “B” sound.
- It’s a plant that grows on the tundra and is small and round.
- It is something you may like to eat in akutaq.

**Switch roles for your child to identify the beginning sound of something for you to find!*



CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Receptive Language

Games such as this foster the development of vocabulary, observational skills, and sound identification.

Thoughtful Harvesting

Remind children of the importance of planning ahead and only harvesting what you need.



Discuss the concept of not "Being Greedy," meaning to be mindful of not taking more than you need, while also thoughtfully sharing with others!

BRIDGE - Design



B is for Blueberry Ink

I love making blueberry ink and drawing pictures with the ink. I want to make ink with cranberries next and drawing with a feather. What kind of ink will you make?

See you next time! – Sawyer

STEAM

EXPLORE 1

Explore outdoors with your 5 senses, as you pick berries.

DESIGN 2

Design your recipe for creating blueberry ink.

CREATE 3

Create blueberry ink.

OBSERVE 4

Observe colors from nature and imagine how different colors evoke different emotions.

IMPROVE 5

Using math, discuss how you can add more or less berries/water to change the color.





1 EXPLORE



Science

Scientists collect information through observation.

Technology

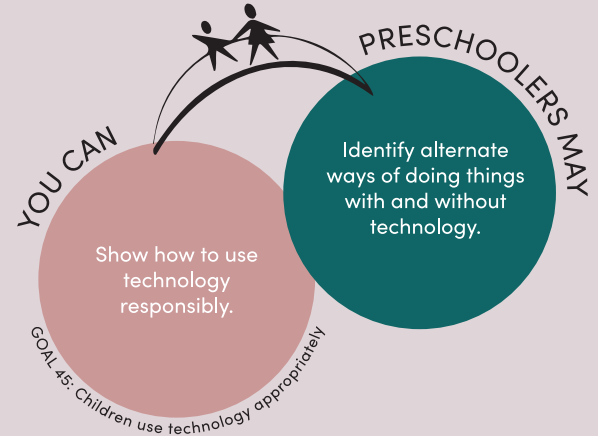
How To Use Tools

Technology is a tool that is human made and makes life easier.

What tools in your kitchen can you use to mash berries?



How can you be safe with your tools?
How can you care for them when you're done?



2 DESIGN

Collect Materials



1 cup blueberries
1 cup water

1 tsp salt
1 tbsp white vinegar

Ask your child whether each material is technology?
Have your child point to **technology** or **not**.



Guiding Questions:

Is it found in nature or invented by humans?
What is it made of? (discuss characteristics)
How is this a tool helpful to humans?



What do you think made this color?

Can you find a dark part? Light part?

How did the colors get dark and light?

3 CREATE

1 Measure

With your child, measure berries, salt, vinegar, and water. Put into a pot and mix.



2 Cook

Place on stove and boil for 10 minutes, stirring frequently.



Engineering

Engineers create things that help people!

3 Strain

Strain ink through a strainer to get all the pulp out.



4 Paint

Paint a picture with your child using your blueberry ink!



Sprinkle salt on wet ink to create interesting patterns and texture. When dry, wipe remaining salt crystals off.

4 OBSERVE

Art











Art Concepts Focus:

Color can create moods and define emotions.

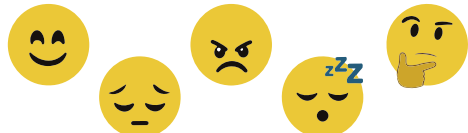
Explore the power of color when talking about design with your child. Often, they will naturally connect a matching image to a color that fits.

Close your eyes and think of your dark blueberry purple ink. What do you imagine?

Match different plants to colors and emotions!

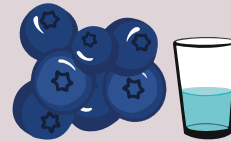
				
				

What color would these berries make?
What do you imagine with these colors?
How do these colors make you feel?



5 IMPROVE

The world will open up, once your child knows how to magically transfer the beautiful deep purple color of tundra blueberries into artwork of their own.



darker



lighter

OBSERVE

Discuss with your child why people use art to convey emotions.



How can you improve your design using math?

BRIDGE - Grow

When I Grow Up...

Entrepreneurship helps us understand how to build a business!

What is important to a Jam Making Business?

★ Job Safety

Knowledge of fire safety and carefully working with sharp tools is important when making jams.

★ Teamwork

Entrepreneurs work with customers by being kind and respectful.

★ Practice

Practicing your berry picking skills is the key to a successful jam business.



I can start my own jam business!

Owning a business takes hard work gathering materials, creating your product to sell, and saving money.

As I Grow...

I can be helpful.



BRIDGE - Explore

Explore the Language App!

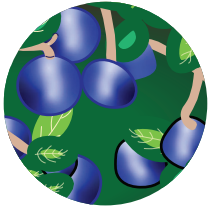


Can you find these words?

Cranberries



Blueberry



Tundra Tea



What to Explore Next?

We hope you have enjoyed this theme! Here are some additional ways you can continue to explore our family kits.

Share the Activities You Did Together



Explore Pollinators of Alaska Coloring Book



Check Out Another BRIDGE Family Kit!



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