

## In the Garden

*As our strawberry harvest slows, raspberries, blueberries & blackberries are ripening. Our pea plants will be composted at the beginning of the month but the children will continue to help plant pole beans in their place. Our first bush & pole beans have sprouted and we will fill in empty spaces with more seeds. Most of our corn plants have sprouted and we'll plant more pole beans between the corn plants. New Zealand spinach is growing well and the children will be sampling these during garden classes or on the playgrounds. Our flower gardens are blooming nicely and we will continue enjoy new flowers (and pollinators) as summer goes on. We will be continuing to harvest garlic & oregano this month: please keep your eyes out for some by the front door to take home; the kiddos love to take things home from the gardens. We will also be looking for young kale & lettuce plants to mature for harvest while we start thinking about planting more greens for fall/winter. We'll also be monitoring our watermelon vine for young fruits to start, and we'll have our first small harvest from the kiwi vines that we planted three years ago by the annex.*

**In the classroom:** *we will focus on habitats all month*

## June 30-July 3 – Forest

### Activities

- Review habitat
- Read Sounds of the Forest (Oregon forests)
- Name animals found in book in English & Spanish
- Identify cut-outs of animals that live in a forest from a larger pool of animals
- Investigate specimen of animals & tree parts from forests
- Forest animal coloring sheets

### Objectives

- Discern smaller habitats within a larger habitat
- Identify animals found in a forest habitat
- Investigate forest animals & plants

### Vocabulary

- Forest
- Squirrel
- Deer
- Bear
- Owl, woodpecker, eagle, bird
- Snake
- Otter
- Beaver
- Bee
- Butterfly
- Mouse
- Salamander
- Habitat

## July 7-11 — Grassland

### Activities

- Discuss grassland habitats. Ask children what skills/traits an animal might need to live in those habitats, looking at grassland & animal photos (prints & magazines)
- Identify cut-outs of animals that live in a grassland from a larger pool of animals
- Safari floor puzzle (Annex/preschool)
- Animal specimen jars & armadillo shell
- Practice trumpeting like an elephant
- Elephant craft with shapes (2s & Tods)

### Vocabulary

- Grassland, savanna, prairie
- Antelope, gazelle, bison
- Giraffe, wildebeest, zebra
- Elephant, rhino, cheetah
- Termite, anteater, armadillo
- Rhea, ostrich, vulture
- Lion, coyote, grasshopper

### Objectives

- Describe a grassland habitat
- Relate traits of grassland animals
- Identify cut-outs of animals that live in a grassland from a larger pool of animals

## July 14-18 — Desert

### Activities

- Paraphrase Desert Giant & Deserts
- View desert photos & discuss desert habitats
- Identify cut-outs of animals that live in a desert from a larger pool of animals
- Investigate desert animal & plant specimen
- Sand painting craft
- Listen to Tuareg music of the Sahara

### Vocabulary

- Saguaro
- Elf owl, hawk, carpenter bird
- Scorpion, centipede
- Bat, butterfly, beetle
- Flower, fruit, rib
- Lizard, termite, snake
- Coyote, javelina
- Camel, mouse

### Objectives

- Share traits of a desert
- Name animals that might be found in a desert
- Use fine motor skills to create a sand painting

## July 21-25 — Water

### Activities

- Observe photos of bodies of water; discuss similarities & differences
- Sing “Baby Beluga;” book A Cool Drink of Water
- Identify cut-outs of animals that live in or near water from a larger pool of animals
- Magnetic fishing
- Coloring pages: Pacific Ocean animals
- Drink sun tea from garden herbs

### Vocabulary

- River, lake, ocean, creek, swamp, oasis
- Fish, whale, shark, coral, shell, frog, octopus, duck, tadpole, dragonfly, alligator, dolphin
- seaweed, reed

### Objectives

- Name various types of bodies of water
- Identify animals that live in or near water
- Use large motor skills to play a fishing game

## July 28 - August 1 — Alpine/Tundra

### Activities

- Books: What Polar Animals Eat, How Polar Animals Hide
- View & discuss alpine & polar animal photos
- Investigate/describe ice
- Arctic animal coloring sheets
- Identify cut-outs of arctic & polar animals from a larger pool of animals

### Vocabulary

- Tundra, alpine, polar
- Polar bear, penguin, arctic hare, arctic fox, narwhal, musk ox, snow leopard, caribou, walrus
- Cold
- Ice, glacier, snow

### Objectives

- State differences between arctic & alpine regions
- Identify animals that live in arctic or alpine areas
- Provide examples of traits of animals that live in alpine & arctic regions

