



Plant Needs/Garden Chores

Video #304

Developed for Grades: 2nd - 5th

The WOW videos have been developed to inspire students to learn more about **NGSS Life Science and/or Earth Science Disciplinary Core Ideas**. These could include:

- Plants and animals (including humans) can change their environment.
- Living things need water, air, and resources from the land.
- Humans use natural resources for everything they do.
- All organisms have internal and external structures that serve various functions in growth, survival, behavior and reproduction.
- Importance of ecosystems and habitats
- Cross cutting concepts like patterns, cause and effect, etc.

The WOW videos and their support documents can also be used with **English Language Arts**. Here are some ideas:

1. Select a few questions from the Know-It-All section and have students write their answers.
2. Have students write a story related to the topic. They could even add illustrations. For some grades students could read their stories and/or video tape their readings to share.
3. Students could write a poem, a play, or a song based on something in the video that created an emotional response for them.
4. Key words in the video can be used in creative writing assignments.
5. Older students could explore the difference in learning from video as opposed to a book. What are the advantages and disadvantages?

Answer Key for Know-It-All

1. Why do we need to do garden chores?

- A garden is always growing! Weeds can take over a garden bed that is intended for a food plant, like broccoli or carrots. Without regular watering, many garden plants will die. Without adding nutrient-filled compost, the plants will use up the nutrition in the soil, and even if they survive, they may not produce much food. Some plant crops grow better in the shade and some in the bright sunlight; and still others prefer a mixture of both. If the gardener meets each crop's specific needs, they will grow strong and healthy. Gardeners are always eager to learn more about how to meet the needs of their plants!

2. By weeding, Dani helped the plant meet which survival need? (Hint: there might be more than one right answer!)

- **Enough Water for the Roots**
- **Access to Sunlight**
- **Space to Grow**
- **Enough Nutrients to Stay Healthy**
- **Air circulation**
- All except air circulation

3. Why did Eve spread compost on the lettuce in the garden bed?

- Compost is made when extra plant material, kitchen scraps and manure are collected in a bin for decomposers to break down into nutrient-rich compost. When put on the plants in the garden, compost acts like vitamins, adding important elements, like calcium, potassium, and iron into the soil. Healthy soil means healthy plants that are more nutritious for us to eat!

4. What is one way that a gardener or farmer can control the amount of sunlight a plant gets?

- Placing shade cloth over a plant can limit the amount of sun that can get to shade-loving plants like broccoli and lettuce.

5. How do you think growing a garden meets a need that people have?

- Gardens can provide food, a habitat for wild animals, beauty, fresh air and a calm place to enjoy life.

