

## Investigate and value traditional garden wisdom

**Subject(s):** English, History

**Grade(s):** 8

**Key Stage(s):** 3

### Learning intention(s)

Students will investigate and understand traditional gardening techniques used by older generations to identify sustainable practices and compare them to modern gardening methods.

### Mapping to curriculum

#### Scope and Sequence Statement

#### How it is Addressed in the Activity

##### Speaking and Listening

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Speak and listen appropriately in formal/informal contexts</li> <li>• Demonstrate effective speaking strategies</li> <li>• Demonstrate effective listening strategies</li> <li>• Use features of oral language</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students conduct interviews with community members and present findings to peers, adjusting their language to suit each setting.</li> <li>• Students use open-ended questions, clarity of speech, and storytelling to guide interviews and presentations.</li> <li>• Students actively listen and record interview responses accurately, demonstrating respect and comprehension.</li> <li>• Students apply tone, questioning techniques, and dialogue conventions to convey and interpret meaning from interviews.</li> </ul> |
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##### Reading and Viewing

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read and comprehend literary and informational texts</li> <li>• Use strategies before, during, and after reading/viewing</li> <li>• Understand structures and features of texts</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students read/view materials on traditional gardening and sustainability as background research and for extension tasks.</li> <li>• Students prepare questions, monitor comprehension while researching, and summarise or evaluate information after reading.</li> <li>• Students interpret the structure and features of informational texts, websites, or media to support their analysis and comparison.</li> </ul> |
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##### Writing and Representing

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create varied personal and informational texts</li> <li>• Use strategies to generate, draft, and revise texts</li> <li>• Use features and conventions of text types</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students summarise interviews, compare practices, and present findings in posters, reports, or videos for a clear audience focus.</li> <li>• Students brainstorm, draft, edit and refine their summaries and presentations to improve clarity, coherence and engagement.</li> <li>• Students apply conventions such as headings, quotes, comparative structures, and narrative elements in their final products.</li> </ul> |
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## Lesson Instructions

1. **Introduction:** Discuss the importance of preserving knowledge and traditions. Highlight how older gardening techniques can teach us about sustainability, resourcefulness, and environmental care.
2. **Preparation:** Create a list of questions to guide your interview, such as:
  - What gardening techniques did you use when you were younger?
  - How did you manage pests or improve soil health?
  - What tools or materials did you rely on?
  - How did the seasons and climate influence your garden practices?

Practise asking open-ended questions and active listening skills.

3. **Conducting the interview**
  - Identify a family member, neighbour, or community member who has experience with older gardening techniques.
  - Record their responses using a notebook, phone or tablet (with permission).
4. **Analysis and Reflection**
  - Summarise the gardening techniques you learned about.
  - Compare these methods to modern practices, focusing on sustainability, efficiency, and environmental impact.
5. **Presentation**
  - Share your findings with the class through a short presentation, poster, or video. Include quotes or stories from your interviewee to bring their experiences to life.

### Extension Activity

Research how traditional gardening techniques are being integrated into sustainable farming practices today.