

Self-Directed Station Ideas

- Watering
- Soil Exploration / Dig Zone
- Sweeping and Trash Pick-up
- Worm Bin / Invertebrate Study
- Field Guides and Plant/Animal Identification
- Magnifying glasses and science tools
- Natural art materials
- Tool cleaning
- Compost sifting
- Weeding
- Binoculars

Non-Gardening Activities

Writing

- Keep garden journals
- Write how-to books
- Write poetry and prose inspired by the garden
- Create promotional materials or signage for the garden
- Write grant applications (for older students)

Science

- Measure and record plant growth over time
- Perform simple growing experiments
- Observe animal structure and function, behavior, adaptations
- Record and track the local weather through the seasons
- Practice plant and animal identification
- Explore soil structure and composition
- Model weathering, erosion, and deposition within the garden beds
- Locate evidence of fungi, bacteria and invertebrates in the compost pile or garden soil

Art

- Build garden decorations to deter birds (objects that move in the wind and reflect light, or rocks painted as strawberries)
- Dry herbs and flowers
- Use plant materials to make natural cordage or woven bookmarks
- Create maps and comics related to the garden and its inhabitants
- Build model seeds that can travel from a parent plant to a new growing location
- Create songs or plays that share important information about the garden

Math

- Calculate soil and plant needs for garden expansion
- Cook garden snacks using fractions
- Use data to estimate number of flowers, number of pollinators visiting the garden