

# Benefits of Biodiversity

## Very Best Variety - Lesson 1



### For the Classroom:

- Group structure - whole group or small group
- Location - at tables
- Approximate time - 10 minutes

### Standards:

S4L1. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information about the roles of organisms and the flow of energy within an ecosystem

### Materials:

- Journal or sheet of paper (1 per student)
- Pencils (1 per student)



### Procedures:

#### 1. Engage:

a. "Biodiversity means the diversity of life. Why might we want diversity in our plant life?"

#### 2. Explore:

a. "First, think on your own. Think, draw, or make a list in your journal of all of the reasons biodiversity - or diversity in our plants might be important." Provide time for children to think, draw, and write.

i. "Remember that all fruits and vegetables give our bodies different vitamins and nutrients. Think about how having less plants would impact what you get to eat. What would the grocery store look like? How might that impact your health?"

ii. "Remember that all fruits and vegetables give the soil different nutrients. How might less plant variety impact our Earth?"

iii. "Remember that all fruits and vegetables provide different foods and habitats for different animals. How might less plant variety impact plants and animals?"

b. "Now, pair with someone sitting next to you to share your list." Provide time for children to pair.

c. "Lastly, let's share. Put your finger on your nose if you think you know a reason why biodiversity or diversity of plant life might be important." Select children to share. Prompt other students to snap if they agree with what was shared.

#### 3. Explain:

a. "Many big farms only grow a few fruits and vegetables and that can have an impact on the food available for us to eat and on the environment. We can help protect biodiversity by growing and eating a wide variety of fruits and vegetables (and supporting our local farmers that do that same)!"

Lesson Created by Jenna Mobley for Georgia Organics