Fractions of a Foot Space for Seeds to Stretch - Lesson 3

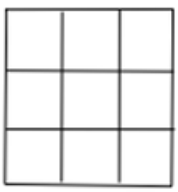
For the Classroom

- Group structure - whole group or small groups
- Location - at seats
- Approximate time - 40 minutes

Common Core and Georgia Standards of Excellence

- CCSS.MATH.CONTENT.2.G.A.3 Partition circles and rectangles into two, three, or four equal shares, describe the shares using the words halves, thirds, half of, a third of, etc. and describe the whole as two halves, three thirds, four fourths. Recognize that equal shares of identical wholes need not have the same shape.

Materials



- Turnip, beet, and spinach seeds (1 seed packet of each per small group)
- 12 x 12 sheets of newspaper, divided into 9ths (1 per child)
- Index cards (1 per child)Pencils (1 per child)
- Flour, water, bowl to make paste (1 per small group)
- Popsicle sticks for paste (1 per small group)

Directions

- Distribute to each child a pencil and a 12 x 12 sheet of newspaper, divided into 9ths. Ask children to write their name on one side of their newspaper. Explain that the children will be gluing 9 seeds of their choice, 1 into each square on the newspaper so each has plenty of room to grow. After it dries, they will plant the newspaper strip in the ground so their square foot garden can grow.
- Distribute a small bowl to each small group. Fill it about ⅓ full of flour and then add water until it becomes sticky. Add a popsicle stick to each bowl.
- Distribute a packet of turnip seeds to each group. Explain that each student will place a small dab of glue in the middle of each square where they would like the plant with a turnip. Then, they will place one seed of their choice gently on top.
- Distribute an index card to each child and instruct them to write the fraction of their garden they planted with turnips. For example, “2/9 turnips.”
- Repeat steps 3-4 for the beet seeds and the spinach seeds, reminding students that their full garden should be planted by the end and the fractions they recorded should add up to 9/9 or 1.
- Allow newspaper squares to dry. Then, children can plant their newspaper squares just barely under the soil and water to them to see if their seeds will grow!

Lesson Created by Jenna Mobley for Georgia Organics