

Lola Plants a Garden

RIF EXTENSION ACTIVITIES FOR EDUCATORS

STEAM-THEMES: SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, ART, MATH

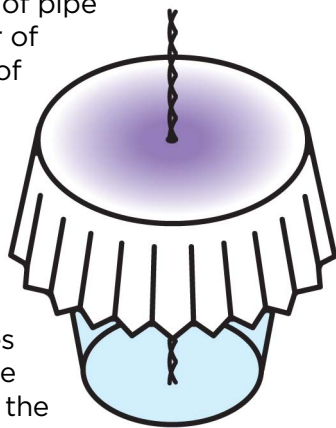


SCIENCE

CHROMATOGRAPHY GARDEN

Materials: coffee filters, small clear cups, pipe cleaners, dark markers, scissors

Have students use markers to create a penny-sized circle in the center of the filter. Cut pipe cleaner so it's about 1.5 inches longer than the cup. Fill cup 3/4 full of water. Push end of pipe cleaner through the center of the filter and place in cup of water; don't let the filter touch the water. As the pipe cleaner soaks up the water, have students observe how the water then spreads across the filter, moving and separating out the color. Why does the water travel up the pipe cleaner? What happens to the ink? Let filters dry and display them as a chromatography flower garden.



TECHNOLOGY

GARDEN GAME

Have students work on this puzzle game: www.miniclip.com/games/bloomin-gardens/en. The goal is to get the same flowers in rows of 5 while keeping a clear path through the flower garden—it's quite a challenge!

ENGINEERING

SENSORY GARDEN

Work with students to design and create a container or outdoor ground garden that will appeal to all five senses. Suggestions include:

Sight: Plant bright flowers or paint the container a vibrant color.

Smell & Taste: Plant herbs like basil, parsley, or cilantro.

Hearing: Hang a wind chime near the garden area.

Touch: Add smooth river rocks to the garden.

ART, WRITING

FLOWER POWER

Materials: dried or silk flower petals, glue, markers, paper

Have students create a unique flower by gluing petals onto paper and using markers to draw the leaves and stem. Once their flower is complete, students should write a poem about their flower. Poems can be totally original or based off another familiar poem like the one in the back of Lola's story. Compile student poems into a class garden poem book.

MATH, ART

FINGERPRINT FLOWERS

Materials: scrap paper, scissors, glue, paint or markers

Use the scrap paper to cut out a flower vase. Glue onto another sheet of paper. Draw flower stems coming out of the vase. Use paint or marker on fingertips to make unique fingerprint flowers on top of the stems. How many flowers are there? How many petals?

Older students can write word problems based on their pictures and trade with a partner to solve. Younger students can practice making patterns with the petals and flowers.



Reading Is Fundamental