



Stories, Shoots and Sprouts

Teacher's Notes

DAYS: Monday to Friday
TIME: 10:00am–11:30am
12:30pm–2:00pm
GRADES: Preschool–Grade 2



August 2018

Historic Stewart Farm
13723 Crescent Road, Surrey
604-592-6956 – press 0 for assistance
www.surrey.ca/heritageschool



@StewartFarmBC  @HeritageSurreyBC

Note that during this program students will consume apples, handle various vegetables, and touch garden plants. Please let us know of any allergies when registering.

Aim

Stories, Shoots & Sprouts is designed to introduce children to heritage vegetables and fruit. Students will discover how they grow, identify different types of vegetables, learn about the tools and seasonal steps involved in caring for a vegetable garden and apple orchard. Children will also have the opportunity to prepare and sample a vegetable and/or fruit.

Curriculum Context:

The program will cover various “big ideas” and learning standards content from Kindergarten – Grade 2

1. We shape the local environment, and the local environment shapes who we are and how we live
2. Plants and animals have observable features
3. Observable patterns and cycles occur in the local sky and landscape
4. Daily and seasonal changes affect all living things
5. Living things have features and behaviours that help them survive in their environment
6. All living things have a life cycle
7. Water is essential to all living things, and it cycles through the environment

Content

The program will be presented by a team of three volunteers. Children will be welcomed to the Historic Stewart Farm, and rotate through different areas: heritage garden, root cellar, compost and children’s garden area, wood shed, farmhouse kitchen, orchard and barn. Hands on activities will be offered in select areas.

- Each group will have an opportunity to tour the heritage vegetable garden. The children will be able to look at, touch and smell different plants and herbs; tour the root cellar to look at, handle, and learn about the use of different garden tools; tend the children’s garden area through seasonal hands-on activities (i.e. watering, planting or harvesting).
- In the woodshed children will do another seasonal activity (i.e. make an environmentally friendly starter pot out of newspaper and plant a bean seed in it, sort seeds, dry herbs, or gather and mix correct materials to put in the compost).
- In the kitchen children will learn about old-time use of vegetables and fruit, and wash and prepare a vegetable and/or fruit to sample.
- In the barn children will learn an action song about the growing characteristics of different vegetables and fruit, and play a game to help reinforce how vegetables and fruit grow.
- In the orchard children will learn the best way to pick an apple. During the fall season, depending on the availability of apples on the trees they will have an opportunity to pick an apple. In the spring they will learn about beneficial insects and pollination. At the end of the program all groups will gather in the barn to taste “apple cider” -pasteurized apple juice.

Organization

- The Historic Stewart Farm is located in Elgin Heritage Park, 13723 Crescent Road, South Surrey. Please arrive five minutes before your program's scheduled time. Assemble on the front porch of the farmhouse. This program begins on time. Please have your students organized and ready to begin by 10:00am or 12:30pm.
- Please have each student wear a "first name" tag in large print. Docents develop a quicker rapport with students if they can call the students by their names. It is helpful if parent helpers wear name tags, too.
- Please divide the class into three equal-size groups with an even distribution of boys and girls and parent helpers, if possible. All groups will participate in all activities.
- The docents will meet your class at the front door. Each of the groups will be conducted through the program by a docent.
- Please bring appropriate clothing for the cold weather; parts of the program will take place outside.
- Lunches and other material must be left in your vehicles (see the Surrey RCMP information on preventing theft from vehicles parked on the site) or remain with the students during the tour.
- Assign accompanying adults to each of the three groups – 1-2 adults/group only please. Please advise accompanying adults the docent's focus is student participation. They are welcome to observe the presentation, but they should not participate, intervene or engage the docent in conversation unless invited.
- No flash photography is allowed in the Farmhouse. All cellphones should be on silent mode during the program.
- Due to limited space in our buildings we cannot accommodate younger siblings. Parent drivers are welcome to explore the site on their own with their younger child but cannot participate in the program.

Please ensure accompanying parents are aware of these rules and guidelines

Please meet in front of the Stewart Farmhouse – your docent will check in with you before the program begins

NOTE: There are no onsite animals at Historic Stewart Farm.

Pre-visit Suggestions

- Ask students to pretend they have a magical camera -they can slide it into the ground, and take a picture. Draw what the students see above and below the soil's surface. They can include garden pests.
- Brainstorm the activities their grandparents' parents might have done as children. Explore the similarities and differences.

Post-visit Suggestions

- Create drawings of gardens today and of the past.
- Compare and contrast students' lunches with William and John's lunch. Did it come for their garden? Does it need to be kept cold? Where is it made?

Evaluation

Your feedback is very important to us. We want to know if this program met the learning objectives identified and if you and the students enjoyed and learned from your museum experience.

Please complete the Program Evaluation survey which will be emailed to you after the program. The information you provide will assist us to make revisions or to improve the program to better meet your needs and expectations.

REFERENCE

Basic site and family history

Historically, the surrounding coastal forest area of the Elgin Heritage Park included tree species such as western red cedar, red alder, Sitka spruce, Douglas-fir, grand fir and broad-leaf maple. The underbrush consisted of Pacific crabapple, Indian plum, red elderberry, cascara, bald hip rose, Oregon grape, black raspberry, and sword fern. The grassland area was covered with wild crabapple, grasses, and bulrushes. Cattail leaves and stems were collected in the late summer and were used by the Coast Salish people for making mats, twine, baskets, capes and hats. Mats were used for covering mat lodges, canoes and for lining walls of plank houses. Wildlife found included swans, geese, ducks, ruffed grouse, raptorial birds, snowshoe hare, raccoon, wolves, martin, mink, skunk, otter, beaver, muskrat, deer and bear.

The Nicomekl River route was an important fishing and communications route. The River supported spawning populations of Coho salmon and steelhead trout. Archaeological studies have determined that occupation of the area dates back to approximately 4,000 years. Shell middens, isolated finds of stone tools and petroglyphs have been found in this area.

Much of the Nicomekl River was dyked between the 1870s and 1890s and concrete dams were constructed on the river in the early 1900s. The coast forest area has been selectively logged in the past.

Elgin was an early way station on the Semiahmoo Trail. In 1865 a telegraph line passed through Mud Bay and crossed the Nicomekl at a point that later became known as Elgin. By 1892 the village consisted of a hotel, country store, post office, livery stable and blacksmith shop.

Approximately 160 acres of land was pre-empted by Samuel Hardy in the 1880s. Shortly after, John Stewart acquired the land and established a haying operation on the north side of the Nicomekl River.

A farmer's life was one of hard work and economy. John Stewart grew hay, barley and oats which supplied feed for his stock and provided a farm income. The Stewarts crossed the river by rowboat and assisted with the loading of their hay and grain on the steamship *S.S. Granier* which would travel across the Georgia Strait to Victoria where the grain was sold. In 1903, 200 pounds of hay sold for \$10, a sack of oats cost \$1.08, butter was 30 cents a pound, and eggs were 20 cents a dozen.

The farm operation was large and successful and employed many farm hands during harvest season. Hay fields, poultry, pigs, and the orchard kept the family and farm hands busy.

Following the death of John in 1926, William and his children continued to operate the farm until 1944, when the property was sold to Earl Ward of North Vancouver. Initially the Wards used the property for recreational purposes and established a small marina in the early 1950s. The City of Surrey acquired 54 acres of property in 1984 and designated eight buildings, which includes the farmhouse, root cellar, threshing machine shed (now the Stewart Hall) Pole Barn, bunkhouse, machine shed, wood shed and garage, as historically significant.

STEWART FAMILY BASIC TIMELINE

- 1843 John Stewart born (Island of Arran, Scotland)
- 1852 Annie Davidson born on July 15 (Huntingdon, Quebec)
- 1860s Stewart Family moves to Quebec. John and two brothers head off to California to work in the Redwood Forest
- 1880 John Stewart returns to Canada and purchases a quarter section of land that had been pre-empted by Samuel Hardy.
- 1882 Annie Davidson moves to BC.
- 1884 John Stewart marries Anne Jane Davidson (“Annie”) on October 9
- 1885 William James Stewart is born on October 7
- 1890 John Massey Stewart is born on July 18
- 1894 Two-story Victorian-style farmhouse constructed to replace the old house. The old house becomes temporary accommodation for the seasonal farm crew
- 1913 Annie Stewart dies on January 13
William James Stewart marries Gertrude Lewenden on February 14
- 1916 Muriel Joyce Stewart born to William and Gertrude on May 3
- 1918 John Massey Stewart marries Edna Madge Burden
- 1919 John Massey Stewart dies in the flu epidemic
- 1920 Kenneth John Stewart born to William and Gertrude on March 24
- 1926 John Stewart dies
- 1927 Bunkhouse built for seasonal farm crew
- 1944 Property sold to Ward family
- 1962 William James Stewart dies
- 1984 City of Surrey acquires property and undertakes restoration
- 1988 Historic Stewart Farm opens to the public
- Today Your visit to the Historic Stewart Farm

STUDENT HISTORICAL GUIDE

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, Elgin was a country area and mostly made up of farms. There were few roads and it took much longer to get around by horse and buggy. At the Elgin Heritage Park, the vegetation was diverse with red cedars, Sitka spruce, Douglas-fir, sword ferns and black raspberry. There was also much wildlife including swans, geese, ducks, raccoons, wolves, beavers and bears.

John Stewart was born in Scotland. He traveled by ship with his brothers, Donald and Finlay, across the Atlantic Ocean to Canada. It was a scary decision to leave your country and begin a new life in a foreign country. The Stewart brothers went to California to work in the Redwood Forrest. Logging was a difficult and dangerous occupation. John Stewart returned to Canada and purchased 160 acres of land in Mud Bay to build a farm.

He married Annie Davidson in Nanaimo on Vancouver Island. They had two sons, William and John. Life on a farm was challenging and it required a lot of hard work. Everyone was expected to help out on the Farm. The children, William and John, had many chores like pumping water, feeding animals, collecting eggs from the hens and milking cows. Annie also had lots of household tasks: cooking, laundry, mending and sewing. John was kept busy tending to the crops.

Animals were essential on the farm. The Stewarts had chickens, cows, pigs, horses, turkeys and dogs. Each animal played an important role on the Stewart Farm. Animals like turkeys, chickens, cows, and pigs were used for their meat and their ability to produce eggs, milk and butter. Horses were used for labour. They helped pulling farm machinery such as plows and seeders. Horses also were used for transportation.

John Stewart grew hay, barley and oats which supplied food for his animals. The Stewart family continued to operate the farm until 1944. They sold it to Earl Ward and he ran a marina. In 1984, the City of Surrey purchased the land – the land became the Elgin Heritage Park.

BOOK SUGGESTIONS AND OTHER RESOURCES

TOPIC	TITLE	AUTHOR
GARDEN FICTION	How Groundhog's Garden Grew	Lynne Cherry
	Up, Down, and Around	Katherine Ayres
	The Gigantic Turnip	Aleksei Tolstoy & Niamh Sherkey
	One Watermelon Seed	Celia Lottridge
	Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt	Kate Messner
GARDEN REFERENCE	The Vegetables We Eat	Gail Gibbons
	From Seed to Pumpkin	Wendy Pfeffer
	How a Seed Grows	Helene J. Jordan
	Roots, Shoots, Buckets & Boots	Sharon Lovejoy
PIONEERS	Pioneer Kids (Canadian Flyer Series)	Frieda Wishinsky
	A Pioneer Story: The Daily Life of a Pioneer Family in 1840	Barbara Greenwood
	Pioneer Days: Discover the Past with Fun Projects, Games, Activities, and Recipes	David C. King
	Pioneer Meals	Bobbie Kalman

Websites

The Full Circle Gardener: Garden in a Glove

<http://fullcirclegardener.blogspot.ca/2013/04/gardening-with-kids-garden-in-glove.html>

Garden Science: Worms and Compost

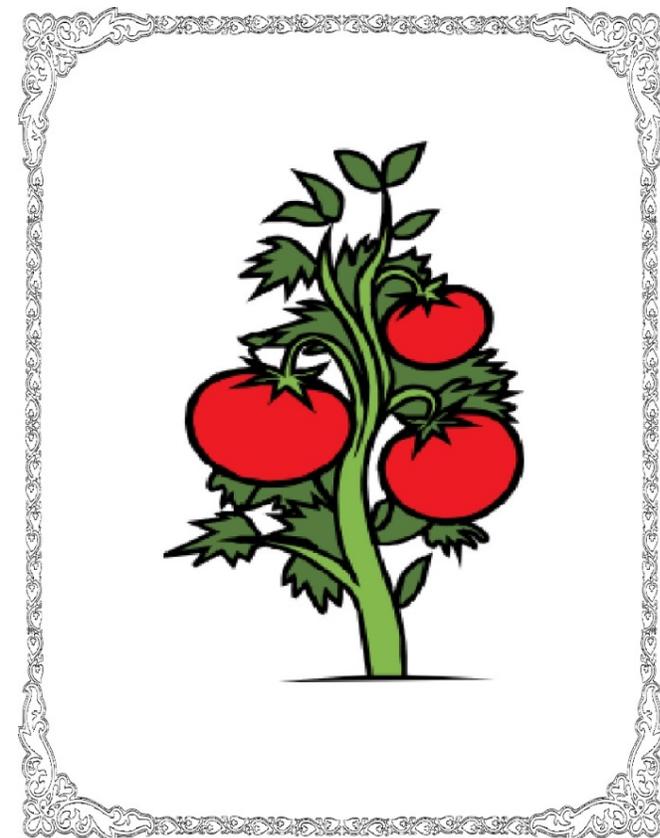
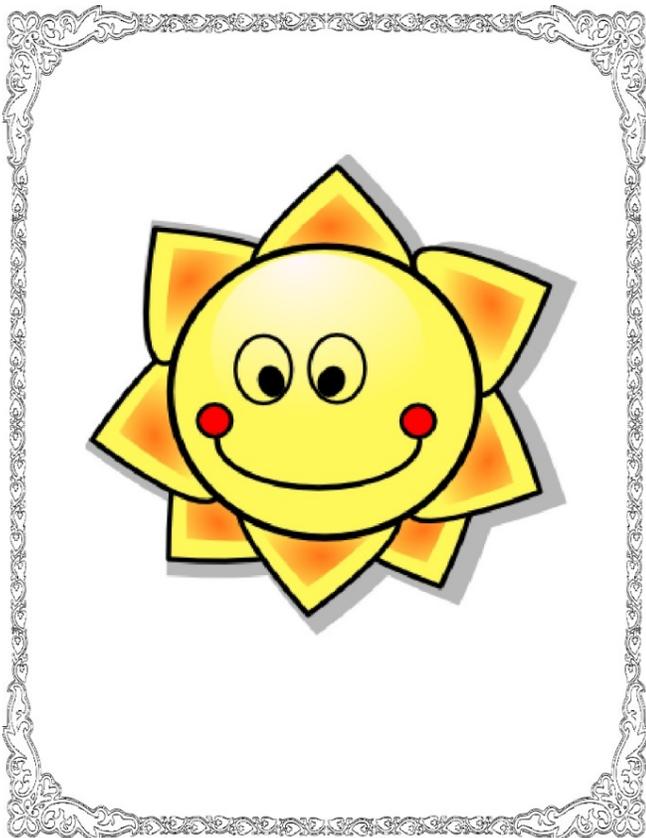
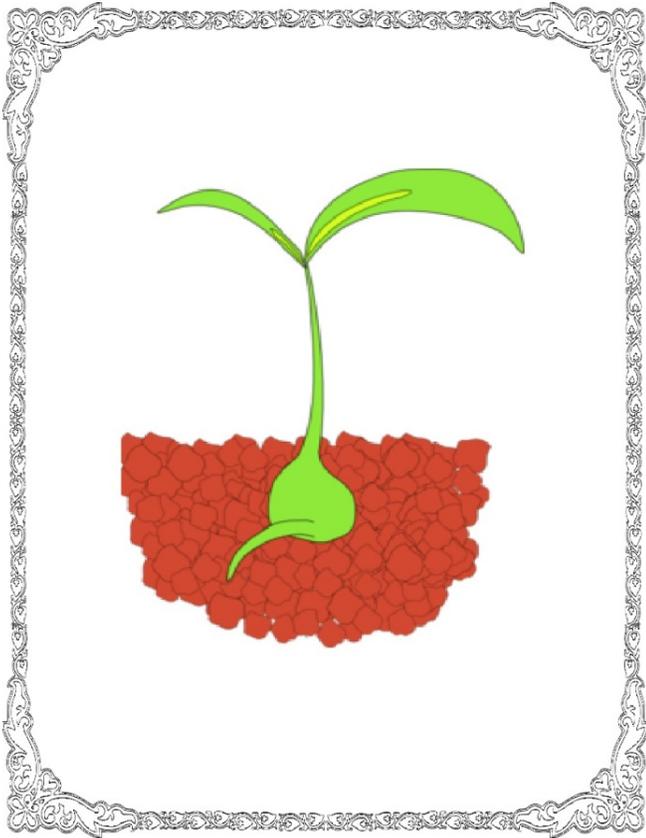
<http://www.theeducatorsspinonit.com/2014/03/garden-science-worms-and-compost.html>

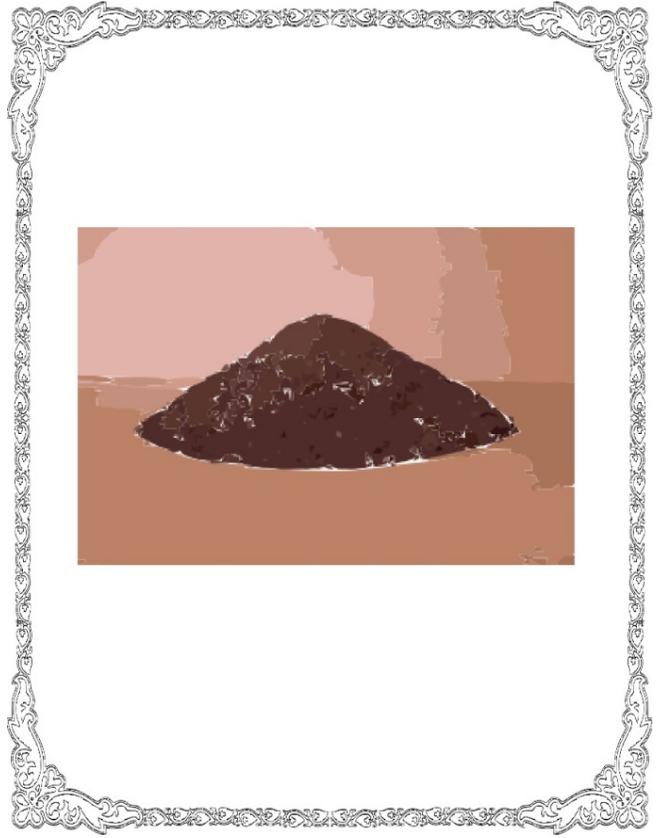
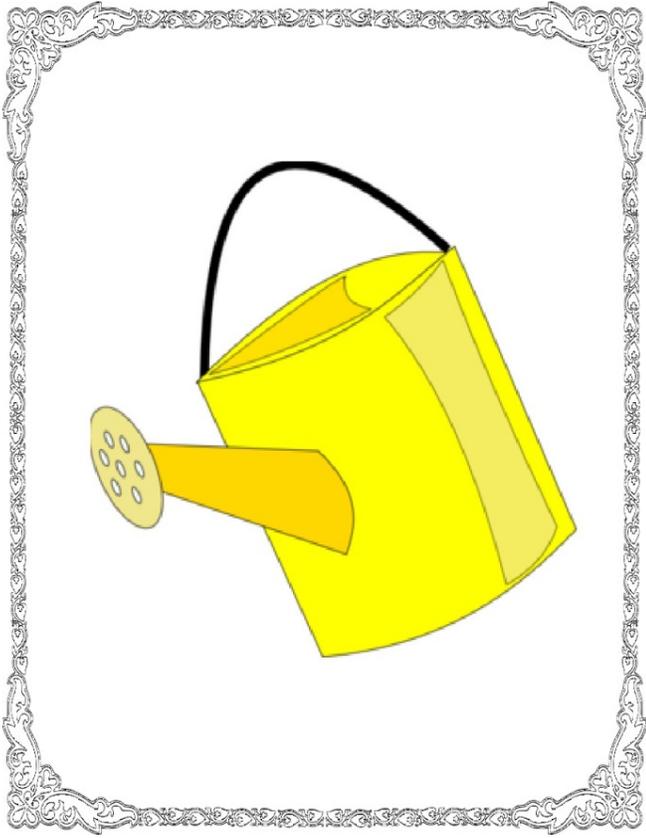
Housing a Forest: Regrowing Celery

<http://www.housingaforest.com/regrowing-celery/>

LIFECYCLE OF THE PLANT GAME

Cut out and laminate cards and put have children place them in correct order





Directions to the Historic Stewart Farm

13723 Crescent Road, Surrey, B.C.

School Field Trip Contact Phone: 604-592-6956 – press 0 for assistance

- Take King George Highway to the T-intersection of Crescent Road.
- Turn west onto Crescent Road at the traffic light.
- Travel along Crescent Road for 1.7 kilometres.
- Just past Nico Wynd Estates look for “Elgin Heritage Park” sign (north side of Crescent Road).
- Turn into our parking lot. Welcome to the Historic Stewart Farm!



Surrey RCMP TIPS - Theft from Vehicles

The Surrey RCMP would like to provide the public with the following tips and best practices in an attempt to prevent theft from Motor Vehicles.

- Do not leave any property in your vehicle or expect to find it gone when you return later, including your garage door opener.
- If you have backpacks or bags put them in your trunk prior to arriving at the park.
- Completely close car windows, including your sunroof and lock your car.
- Invest in a good anti-theft device for your vehicle.
- If you see any suspicious person or activity near a vehicle, call the police immediately.