Salad Garden Planting and Poetry

Grade Level: 2nd

Season: Spring

Larger IGS Unit: Gardens

Essential Question: How do we grow food ourselves? What can we experience with all our senses in the garden?

Materials: Garden poem examples, Word Harvest worksheet, lettuce, kale, and chard starts, pea and radish seeds

Introduction: Today we are going to plant our salad garden. But we are going to do something special to keep us really attentive and observant while and after we plant. We are going to write poems about the garden.

- What is a poem? What about a poem makes it different from a news story?
  - The great thing about poetry is that there are no rules
  - It’s great to use all your senses – what are they?
  - You can make comparisons – similes and metaphors
  - You can rhyme/ you can not rhyme
- Read examples: Ask: what is this poem about? Does it conjure an image for you? How does it make you feel?
- What does it mean to observe something? (To study something with all of your senses)
- How are observations different from feelings and reactions? (Observations are things we notice happening around us, feelings are things we notice within ourselves)
- Explain "Word Harvest" worksheet

Activity 1:
- One group planting at a time, while other groups work on worksheet
- Review garden expectations

Activity 2:
- Write a poem as a group either outside or in the classroom
- Have students write their own poems

Wrap up: Share poems and tell students you will submit poems to the newspaper!

Extensions:
- Introduction to soil
- Salad garden eating