

## Grade 4 Curriculum Link Ideas

Subject	Unit	Season	Activity	Description	
Science	Waste in our world	Spring, summer, fall	Rotting Logs Activities	Students investigate logs at various stages of decay. Have the students look for plants and animals within the logs and how they change with decomposition.	
		All	Compost crazy	Learning how to compost.	
	Light and Shadows (Math)	All	Sundial	Try making sundials with the students using cardboard circles. Students will need to use their math skills to determine the space between each number.	
		Light and Shadows	Spring, summer, fall	Shadow Tracing	Students trace their shadows at different times of the day to predict and observe the changes.
	All		Sun Scavenger hunt	Students go on a scavenger hunt related to aspects of the sun.	
	Plant Growth and Change	Spring, summer, fall	Spring, summer, fall	Plant Structures Scavenger hunt	Students look and identify different plant structures and their function.
			spring, summer, fall	Adopt a Plant	Each student adopts a woody stemmed plant to observe throughout the year.
		Spring, summer, fall	Plant Structures Comparisons	Comparison of a herbaceous plant and a woody plant.	
		All	Plant Systems	Examining the different structures of a plant.	
		All	Native plant Research	Scientific observation of a native plant.	
		Spring, summer, fall	Plant watch	Participation in a province wide program looking at seasonal changes of various plant species.	
		Spring	Seed Hunt	Looking for seeds with different modes of transportation.	
		Summer, fall, winter	Seed investigations	Students collect various seeds and then sketch and study them.	
		Summer	Dandelions	Examination of a dandelion and its structures.	
Math		All	Data Collection	Students collect and then analyze data.	
Language Arts		Fall, winter	Dead leaf Story boards	Students write a circle story about the lifecycle of a leaf.	
		All, best in Spring or summer	Journaling Activity	Learning what information is important when journaling.	

# Plant Structure Comparison

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

You will be looking at two types of plants in the garden, woody and herbaceous. Find an example of each and answer the following questions.

## WOODY PLANT

1. Identify your plant. \_\_\_\_\_

2. Make a detailed drawing of the plant including a close up of the branches and leaves (if possible) in the box below:

3. How tall is your plant? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Does your plant have one main stem or multiple stems? \_\_\_\_\_

5. How has this plant adapted to live in this environment?

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HERBACEOUS PLANT

1. Identify your plant. \_\_\_\_\_

2. Make a detailed drawing of the plant including a close up of the branches and leaves if possible in the box below

3. How tall is your plant? \_\_\_\_\_

4. Does your plant have one main or stem multiple stems? \_\_\_\_\_

5. How has this plant adapted to live in this environment?

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ANALYSIS

In your opinion, what are the major differences between these two types of plants?

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# Plant Systems

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

1. Find a deciduous tree or shrub in the natural garden. Look at one live twig, without removing it. Draw the end of twig from terminal bud to the first bud scale scar in the box below. Note the color(s) of the twig bark.

2. Next look for the first set of bud scale scars. Measure the distance between the terminal bud and the scars. This is the amount of growth the tree had in the last year. Write that measurement below:

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3. Look closely at the bark of the twig and find the lenticels. Draw one of them. Include measurements of the lenticel in the drawing.

4. Find a different species of deciduous tree or shrub and draw the twig and the lenticels below. Include measurements of the lenticel.

Created by Melissa Sikes, Calgary Zoo, 2005

# Dandelions: Structure and Function

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Using the trowel dig up a dandelion, complete with roots. Answer the following questions:

1. First look at the entire root with the magnifying glass. Draw what you see in the box below:

2. Write what you think the function of the long tap root is:

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3. Now look carefully at the root hairs. Draw what you see in the box below:

4. Write what you think the function of the root hairs is:

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5. Next look at the leaves. Make two drawings, one of the top side and one of the bottom side in the box below:

6. Write what you think the function of the leaves is:

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7. Now look at the stem. Draw what you see in the box below:

8. Write what you think the function of the stem is:

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9. Now look at the flower. Draw what you see in the box below:

10. Write what you think the function of the flower is:

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## Sample Journal Page

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Time \_\_\_\_\_ am/pm

Weather Observations:

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What I did today:

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What I want to know

What I learned

What I want to investigate further

Drawing guidelines

Details

Unfamiliar species

Naming things

Actions observed