

Classroom Lesson Plan: “Grow, Weed, Repeat!”



[National Weed Your Garden Day](#), observed on **June 13**, is a perfect opportunity to teach kids about gardening, responsibility, and the importance of maintaining healthy plants. Here's a full classroom lesson plan centered on **planting and weeding a garden** with interactive and educational elements. Here is an ideal Lesson Plan to use or build from:

For National Weed Your Garden Day – June 13

Grade Level: 2nd–4th

Duration: 45–60 minutes

Theme: Gardening, Plant Care, Environmental Awareness

Objectives

By the end of the lesson, students will:

- Understand the basic steps of planting seeds.
 - Learn why weeding is important for plant health.
 - Practice identifying weeds vs. garden plants.
 - Participate in a simulated or real garden activity.
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Materials Needed

- Seed packets (beans or sunflowers work well)
- Small pots or seed starter trays
- Potting soil
- Spray bottles or watering cans
- Plastic garden tools or child-safe weeding tools
- Printable worksheet: “Plant or Weed?”
- Access to school garden or green space (if available)
- Optional: Gloves, magnifying glasses, clipboards

Lesson Outline

1. Introduction (10 minutes)

Start with a fun question:

“What do plants need to grow?”

Write answers on the board (sun, water, soil, space, air).

Introduce **National Weed Your Garden Day** and explain what a **weed** is. Use a real weed or a picture to show an example.

2. Mini-Lesson (10 minutes)

Topics to cover:

- Steps to planting a seed
- What a healthy plant looks like
- Why weeds are a problem (compete for water, sunlight, nutrients)
- How to remove weeds safely

3. Activity Stations (25–30 minutes)

Station 1: Plant a Seed

Students fill a small pot with soil, plant a seed, and water it.

Station 2: Weeding Practice (Real or Simulated)

If outdoors: Let students carefully pull weeds from a garden bed.

If indoors: Create a pretend garden with colored paper “plants” and “weeds” in a sensory bin or sandbox. Kids identify and remove the “weeds.”

Station 3: Worksheet – “Plant or Weed?”

Students complete a worksheet where they circle pictures of plants and cross out weeds. Include fun facts on each page.

Discussion & Wrap-Up (5–10 minutes)

Gather students and ask:

- What was the most fun part of gardening today?
- Why do you think gardeners need to check for weeds often?

Let students name one thing they learned. Optionally, sing a simple garden-themed song or read a short poem or story about gardening.

Extension Ideas

- Track their planted seeds' growth for the next few weeks.
- Write a garden journal entry or draw a picture of their “dream garden.”
- Take a class photo with their planted pots to send home.