

# Activity 26



## MAKE A CALENDAR



STUDY QUESTION:

Which vegetable or grain do you eat in summer? fall? winter? spring?

THE ACTIVITY:

In this activity the children make a calendar that highlights agricultural plants.

SUBJECT AREA:

Science

CURRICULUM CONCEPTS:

### LANGUAGE ARTS

Communicate orally using various forms: conversations.

Use appropriate forms of written language: illustrations.

### SCIENCE

Plants and animals: observe and describe characteristics of plants.

AGRICULTURE CONCEPTS:

Agricultural plants: seasonal change.

PURPOSE

To introduce children to the concept of seasonal changes in plants and eating patterns.

To give the children the opportunity to further develop their language skills while they learn.

MATERIALS REQUIRED:

A selection of paper and light cardboard to suit your calendar designs.

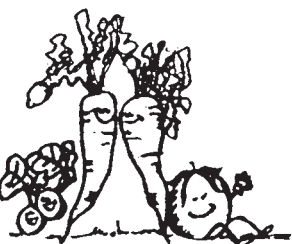
A number of calendars to examine as models.

Illustrations of agricultural plants.

The poem about seasons. Supplied in this activity.

TIME REQUIRED:

2 to 3 class periods.



## PROCEDURE

### Part One

#### Introduction

Read the poem about the seasons to the children to introduce this activity.

### Part Two

#### Relating

Ask children how their clothing changes from spring to summer, summer to fall, etc. Then relate this to the seasonal changes in plants and eating patterns. Ask what plants are eaten and grown in each season.

### Part Three

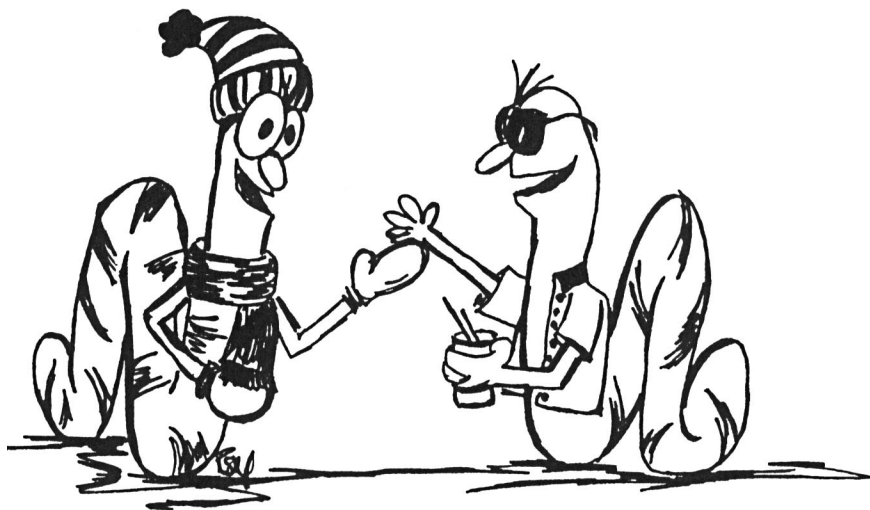
#### Conversation

Have the children work in pairs or threes to produce twelve task groups. Ask each group to prepare a food-related illustration for a specified month. They may want to add inscriptions e.g. interesting facts about plants. If the children work with black and white drawings, the calendar can be duplicated if desired.

### Part Four

#### Conclusion

Assemble the calendar. Have a brief show in which the children reflect on changes in eating patterns with the seasons. Consider offering copies of the calendar to other classes in the school.



**FOR DISCUSSION**

Why do we not grow certain things in the winter time?

What kinds of vegetables do we eat in the winter?

Summer and fall are good times for fresh vegetables and grains if one has crops or gardens! Right?

In what season do things usually start to grow?

What activity takes place in the fall in which we gather up all the grain and vegetables?

**EVALUATION STRATEGIES**

Have children draw pictures to go with poem.

Use calendar as a method of evaluation.

Have children write a short description of the special things that happen over a year with reference to seasonal plant changes, etc.

**RELATED ACTIVITIES**

1. Do a survey in the school - a "street interview" approach - to determine the most and least popular vegetable or grain product. Have the children ask both what a person's favorite vegetable or grain product is and where it is produced - especially whether or not it is in Alberta.
2. Read books about seasonal events on a farm - e.g. Alice and Martin Provensen. The Year at Maple Hill Farm. New York: Atheneum, 1978.



# TEACHER RESOURCE



**HI AGAIN!  
SLIDE HERE!**

**I have some information  
for all the children**

As I visited the different places around here,  
some surprising new things have become very clear.

I saw that in spring people have seeds to sow,  
so that little plants will be able to grow.

In the summer, they watch the plants grow tall,  
and give them water if there is no rainfall.

Fall is when the people are harvesting frantically,  
because snow always seems to come so rapidly.

When the ground is all covered in ice and snow,  
all of the plants are much too cold to grow.

So it seems for some highly mysterious reasons  
the growing of plants has to change with the seasons.

author - C.G. Bibby

# Spring



# Summer



# Autumn



# Winter

