

Core Skills Analysis

Math

- The 7-year-old student practices counting and basic arithmetic skills by determining the number of seeds to plant in each row.
- Understanding concepts of area and multiplication as they measure and calculate the space needed for different plants to grow.
- Learning about patterns and sequences by observing the growth stages of plants and flowers.
- Exploring fractions informally through activities like dividing pots or sections of the garden for different plants.

Science

- Understanding plant life cycles and observing the changes from seed to plant, providing a hands-on biology lesson.
- Learning about the role of sunlight, water, and nutrients in plant growth through practical application in the garden.
- Exploring ecosystems and understanding the interactions between plants, insects, and other living organisms in the garden.
- Hands-on experience with the concept of recycling and composting through turning kitchen scraps into compost for the garden.

Tips

Engage the 7-year-old in journaling their gardening experiences to enhance observation and critical thinking skills. Encourage them to research and plan their garden layout, promoting problem-solving and decision-making. Introduce experiments like testing different types of soil to explore scientific concepts further. Lastly, involve the child in sharing their knowledge with others, fostering communication and presentation skills.

Book Recommendations

- [Up in the Garden and Down in the Dirt](#) by Kate Messner: This book explores the intricate world beneath the garden surface, introducing young readers to the hidden life of plants and animals in the soil.
- [Plant, Sow, Make & Grow: Mud-tastic Activities for Budding Gardeners](#) by Esther Coombs: A hands-on guide filled with fun gardening activities and crafts, encouraging children to explore the joys of growing their own plants.
- [The Daring Book for Girls](#) by Andrea J. Buchanan, Miriam Peskowitz: While not exclusively about gardening, it includes sections on outdoor activities like planting a secret garden and other adventurous endeavors for young girls.