

Three Sisters Harmony Tambourine

Objective: The students will learn that planting a Native American Three Sisters Garden benefits three plants: corn, beans & squash. The corn stalk serves as a pole for the beans, the beans help to add the nitrogen to the soil that the corn needs, and the squash provides a ground cover of shade that helps the soil retain moisture. They will create a tambourine to celebrate their harmony.

Common Core State Standards:

Language Arts: CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RI.3.1; RI.3.7; RI.3.8

Suggested Reading:

Awesome Agriculture: Corn in the Story of Agriculture by Susan Anderson & JoAnne Buggey
(ISBN-13: 978-1-926781-03-7)

Awesome Agriculture: Soybeans in the Story of Agriculture by Susan Anderson & JoAnne Buggey
(ISBN-13: 978-1-926781-03-7)

Corn by Gail Gibbons (ISBN-13: 978-0823422456)

Oh Say Can You Seed? by Bonnie Worth (ISBN13: 9780375810954)

One Bean by Anne Rockwell (ISBN-13: 978-0802775726)

Seed Soil Sun by Cris Peterson (ISBN-13: 978-1-59078-713-7)

The Super Soybean by Raymond Bial (ISBN-13: 978-0-8075-7549-9)

Corn Ag Mag: agintheclassroom.org

Pumpkin Ag Mag: agintheclassroom.org

Soybean Ag Mag: agintheclassroom.org

Soil Ag Mag: agintheclassroom.org



Materials Needed:

1. 2 white paper plates
2. Stapler and staples
3. Markers
4. Corn, beans, and squash seeds

Procedure:

1. Have the students staple the two paper plates together leaving an opening to insert the seeds. Once the seeds are inserted, staple the plates closed. The staples need to be close so the seeds do not fall out.
2. Have the students write “Three Sisters Harmony Tambourine” on the plate.
3. Have the students draw pictures of corn, squash, and beans on the plate.
4. Now your tambourine is complete. You may want to plant a Three Sisters Garden at your school or home. You can learn how at <http://www.nativetech.org/cornhusk/threesisters.html>.