

14. Calling all Fruits!

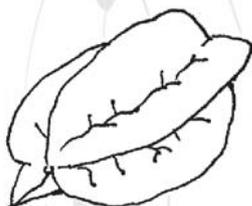
Aim	Students identify fruit trees and vegetable 'fruits' in the school garden, find out about other local fruits/vegetables through a survey and do research on them. They write educational labels for the fruits trees and vegetable fruit plants in the school garden.
Recommended for	Sec 1-3
Subject Links	Science: classification life cycle of plants and reproduction of plants; IT
Horticultural Skills	Local fruit trees
Process Skills	Observing, generating
Equipment/Materials	Digital camera. Optional: 'A Guide to Fruits and Seeds' (Singapore Science Centre Guide Book), wood and tools for building signage.
Duration	2-3 gardening sessions (2-3 hours)
Preparation	Photocopy the handouts and obtain the materials.
Safety	Brief students on 'Garden Nasties' (see page 4). Look out for students who may be allergic to pollen in the air or plant sap.

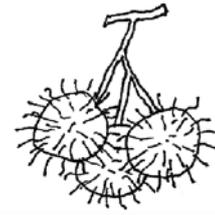
Procedure

1. Distribute the handout, explain the activity and briefly run through the main points on the handout.
2. Students go to the school garden to identify, list and photograph the fruit trees found in the school garden.
3. Guide them to create good survey questions for local fruits and vegetables. Guide them as they analyse and consolidate the data collected.
4. Students then do research on selected fruits and vegetables in the school garden, download pictures from their cameras, and write educational labels for the fruit trees and vegetables.
5. Teams can post pictures of their electronic guides to local fruits, survey report and/or photos on your school blog or the NParks Gardening blog 'Young Gardeners'. (http://www.nparks.gov.sg/blogs/young_gardeners/).
6. Extension: encourage students to make suggestions for new fruit trees to be planted in the school garden. Get them involved in planting and caring for these.

Debrief

- § Commend teams with well-researched and designed electronic guides to local fruits.
- § Ask students to share with the class what they have learnt from this activity. Alternatively, you could ask them to fill in the reflection sheet in Annex 3 and discuss their reflections.

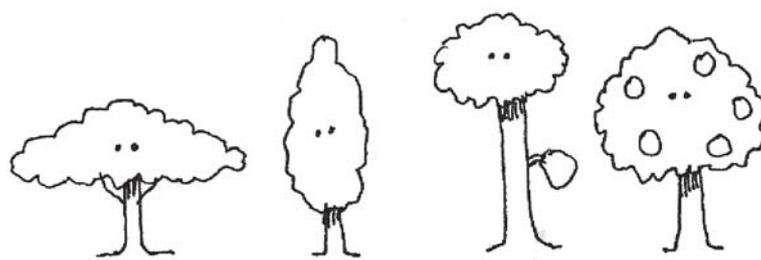




Here are some common local fruits in the region:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nam nam (<i>Cynometra cauliflora</i>) • Duku (<i>Lansium domesticum</i>) • Pulasan (<i>Nephelium ramboutan-ake</i>) • Rambutan (<i>Nephelium lappaceum</i>) • Jambu Air (<i>Syzygium aqueum</i>) • Chempedak (<i>Artocarpus champedan</i> or <i>Artocarpus integer</i>) • Jackfruit (<i>Artocarpus heterophyllus</i>) • Chiku (<i>Manilkara zapota</i>) • Durian (<i>Durio zibethinus</i>) • Breadfruit (<i>Artocarpus altilis</i>) • Banana (<i>Musa spp.</i>) • Custard Apple (<i>Annona reticulata</i>) • Soursop (<i>Annona muricata</i>) • Papaya (<i>Carica papaya</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mango (<i>Mangifera indica</i>) • Mangosteen (<i>Garcinia mangostana</i>) • Belimbing (<i>Averrhoa bilimbi</i>) • Starfruit (<i>Averrhoa carambola</i>) • Guava (<i>Psidium guajava</i>) • Dwarf Guava (<i>Psidium guajava nana</i>) • Buah Salak, Snakefruit (<i>Salacca zalacca</i>) • Sweet Tamarind (<i>Tamarindus indica</i>) • Kedondong (<i>Spondias cytherea</i>) • Cachew Nut (<i>Anacardium occidentale</i>) • Buah Cherry, or Indian Cherry (<i>Muntingia calabura</i>)
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§ Fruits are good for our health! They are a rich source of vitamins (especially vitamins C, A, and the entire B series, thiamine, niacin, E), minerals like potassium, and fibre.



Activity 14



Name :

Members of your team :

14. Calling all Fruits!

Project Objectives

Your Team has to:

- Identify, list and photograph fruit trees and vegetables found in your school garden
- Find out about other local fruits and vegetables through a survey, and do research on some of these
- Write educational labels for the fruit trees and vegetables in your school garden

A 'fruit' in botanical term, is a fertilised and ripened ovary of a flowering plant, hence not only mangos and apples are fruits, but also tomatoes and chilli.

How many local fruits or vegetables can you name? In this activity, we take a closer look at the local fruit trees and vegetables in your school garden and help raise awareness about them.



Be careful of 'Garden nasties' like centipedes, bees and wasps!

Duration of activity

2-3 gardening sessions (2-3 hours)



Equipment/Materials

- Digital camera
- Optional: 'Guide to Fruits and Seeds' (Singapore Science Centre Guide Book), wood and tools for building signage.

Suggested Steps

1. Go to your school garden and identify the fruit trees and vegetables found there.
2. Do research about them – information on the optimum growing conditions, fruiting season (how often it fruits, country of origin, how they are propagated etc.)
3. Develop a survey on local fruits and vegetables, to find out those known by your parents and grandparents, as well as how much do youths of today know about local fruits.
4. Do research on a few of the fruit and vegetable names obtained from your survey
5. With all their information from the survey and research, write educational labels for the fruit trees and vegetables in your school garden.
6. Create an electronic 'local fruit' guide to raise awareness about them.
7. You can post your electronic guide to local fruits and/or your survey results on your school blog or the NParks Gardening blog 'Young Gardeners' (http://www.nparks.gov.sg/blogs/young_gardeners/).

Tips!

To develop the survey, brainstorm facts you would like to know and convert these into questions. Try to make your survey easy and fast to carry out – avoid open ended questions. Give the respondent some choices to consider e.g.:

- Age range
- Local fruits and vegetables they have heard of (tick those they have heard of, include an 'others' response for any fruits you might have left out)
- Do they plant local fruit trees and vegetables in their gardens (yes, no, intend to). If 'yes', indicate types.
- Target parents and grandparents, as well as your peers.
- After the survey, consolidate your results in a report.

Extensions

- Construct the signage for your school garden. Ask your teacher for guidance.
- Create an electronic 'local fruit' guide to raise awareness about them.
- Look out for some unusual local fruits, buy some and try eating them!
- Make suggestions to add new types of local fruit trees to your school garden if they are not present. Do your part in planting and caring for them.

