

Gardening Strategies Scavenger Hunt

State Park Land Managers aren't the only ones who use different strategies to help plants grow. See how many gardening strategies you can find in your neighborhood!

Location: In your home or community

Length of Time: 30 minutes

What You'll Do

During this investigation, you'll use a field guide to look for different ways that people in your community are helping plants grow. Then, you'll sketch them and describe how they help the plant grow in your science journal.

You will learn to...

- Identify different gardening strategies in your community.
- Explain how gardening strategies can help a plant grow.

What You'll Need

- A science journal.** This can be a notebook, a notepad, a document on a tablet or phone, or even paper folded together!
- Something to write with.** Markers, crayons, or colored pencils are optional.
- A Gardening Strategies Field Guide,** either printed or downloaded on a smartphone or tablet.

Directions

1. Visit Crystal Cove Conservancy's website to watch Kaitlin introduce the task: crystalcove.org/gardening-strategies
2. Explore your neighborhood looking for gardening strategies from the [Gardening Strategies Field Guide!](#)
3. When you find a plant using one of the gardening strategies, open up a blank page in your science journal and label the top of your page "Gardening Strategies".
4. Draw a picture of the plant, and write down each gardening strategy being used to help the plant grow. Describe how the strategy is helping the plant grow.
5. Repeat with as many plants as you can find!

Questions to think about afterwards:

- How many gardening strategies were you able to find?
- Were there any strategies you saw more than once? Why do you think gardeners might use that strategy?

Want to do more?

- See if you can find a gardening strategy that isn't in your field guide. What are some more unique ways that you can see people helping their plants grow?
- Come up with a strategy to help a plant grow at home! Is there anything you can apply from your scavenger hunt to help a houseplant or a plant in your garden?

With your parents' permission, share a photo of your science journal with us on social media! Post a photo on Facebook or Instagram using the hashtag #crystalcove-science!