

EarthWorks Orchard Curriculum

| Highlights in Schoolyard Orchards and Gardens Throughout a Typical School Year | | | | | | | | | | |
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| | AUTUMN | | | WINTER | | | SPRING | | | SUMMER |
| | September | October | November | December | January | February | March | April | May | June |
| Orchard/Trees | Apples / cider making / Seed pods | | Falling Leaves | Dormancy, predation by insects | | Bud observation, bird migration | | Blossom observation and watch fruit grow | | |
| Gardens | Flowers, seeds and fruits, late pollinators | Seed dispersal / Fall harvest | | Worm bins, soil, decomposition, snow activities / hibernation | | | | Flowers, insects, pollination | | |
| Hands-On Stewardship Possibilities | Picking and sorting apples, harvesting additional fruits and vegetables, weeding | Raking leaves, planting bulbs, harvesting fall gardens, collecting pine cones for acidic mulch (for blueberries) | | Creating and keeping worm bins; mulching the garden, pruning trees (older kids) | | Spring cleanup; preparing for spring planting, starting seeds indoors | | Planting seeds and watching them grow, garden tending, early harvesting releasing ladybugs / beneficial insects into the garden, adopting a bud / blossom, spring festival, protecting gardens and trees against pests | | |

Note: It is great for kids to observe changes on the same tree or plant over time, in each of the 4 seasons, which is difficult to show in this chart. For example, students could be asked to create a School Field Guide or Orchard Tree Through the Seasons book that shows changes in the orchard throughout the year, where members of the class contribute observations and writing samples for each season.