

Plants You Can Eat: A Fresh Garden in Arizona

Your Task

Research which plants are best grown in Arizona and create a menu that features the plants you have researched. You will need to determine the time of year that is best for particular plants and explain why they are easily grown in Arizona.

What to Research

Use the provided research template to gain a better understanding of the following.

1. Common plants that are farmed in Arizona
2. When those plants are best grown throughout the year
3. How to maintain a small garden
4. What the term 'farm-to-table' means

What to Create

Choose from the following as a way to share your understanding.

1. Create a menu for a 'farm-to-table' restaurant (be sure to include the season and correct plants)
2. Create a plan for a school garden using plants that could then be given back to the school community
3. Create an infographic to teach others about gardening in Arizona for each season

Rubric

Criteria	4	3	2	1
Research and Initial Plan	Research has been well done and shows an in-depth understanding of plants and gardening in Arizona.	Research has been done and shows an understanding of plants and gardening in Arizona.	Research lacks detail and understanding of plants and gardening.	Research is incomplete.
Menu, Garden, or Infographic	A well-developed and detailed display of your research has been completed.	A display of your research has been completed.	A display of your research has been created but lacks detail.	Your display is incomplete.
Organization and Neatness	Display is organized and clean. No grammatical errors have been made.	Display is organized and clean with little grammatical errors.	Display is slightly disorganized and contains many grammatical errors.	Display is disorganized, messy and contains a lot of errors.
Creativity	Idea was innovative, shows thought, and could be implemented.	Idea was creative and interesting.	Idea was similar to what others did.	Lack of effort is evident.
Timeliness	Project was turned in on time.	Project was one day late.	Project was two days late.	Project was many days late.

Research Page

Question	Response and Source
What are some vegetables easily grown in Arizona? When are they planted? When are they harvested?	
What are some fruits easily grown in Arizona? When are they planted? When are they harvested?	
Describe ways that plants are used in everyday life besides for food.	
How is growing plants different for commercial farming and personal gardening?	
What are infographics? View various examples online and come up with your own definition.	
What is 'farm-to-table'? Are there any local examples of this?	
View various menus/websites/personal gardens and make note of their important features. Use these as a guide for developing your display.	

5. What improvements need to be made on your rough draft? How are you going to make them?

Final Reflection

Use the space to explain the following in complete sentences:

Criteria	My explanation
What I knew prior to starting this assignment	
What I learned while completing the assignment	
How I grew as a student and inquirer as I completed this assignment	
Things I could improve on for future assignments or projects	