Objectives

**MO Learning Standards for 3-5:**
EC.1 - Ecosystems  
ES.3 - Natural resources  
IN.1 - Scientific Process  
LO.1 - Structures and adaptations of living things.  
ST.3 - Engineered solutions

**NGSS Standards for 3-5:**
LS2.A - Interdependent relationships in ecosystems  
LS2.B - Cycles of matter and energy transfers in ecosystems.  
LS4.C - Adaptation  
LS4.D - Biodiversity and humans  
ESS2.D - Weather and Climate  
ESS2.E - Biogeology  
ESS3.A - Natural resources  
ESS3.C - Human impacts on Earth’s systems.

About the Program

Directly or indirectly, plants are the source of all of the food we eat, but how is food produced? How do farmers and gardeners know what to plant and how to care for it? What is meant by ‘Agricultural science’? During this program, students will:

- Learn what is meant by ‘agriculture’ and how the science of farming affects what foods are available to us throughout the year,
- Hear the story of George Washington Carver and how his research and discoveries in the field of agriculture continue to impact the way we plan and grow crops today,
- Plan a vegetable garden that takes into account the needs of the plants they choose to plant,
- Visit the William T. Kemper Center to observe agricultural practices in action, and
- Plant a seed to take home or to the classroom to care for and observe as it grows.

**George Washington Carver**

Born into slavery in 1865, in Diamond Grove, Missouri, Carver’s interest in nature and plants developed early and by the age of 12 he was known in the local farming community as “the plant doctor.” He became the first African-American to study at Iowa Agricultural College and serve on its botany faculty. At the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, he revolutionized farming in the South by introducing plant diversity, crop rotation, natural fertilizers and conservation methods.

By the end of his life, Carver was an internationally renowned figure, one of America’s greatest scientists, teachers, humanitarians, and advocates for productive, sustainable agriculture.
This Program Features:

The William T. Kemper Center

The William T. Kemper Center for Home Gardening includes 23 distinct demonstration gardens ranging from bird and butterfly gardens to an impressive vegetable garden and a garden for children! The outdoor portion of Foodology brings students here to observe the ways in which modern agricultural practices are used in gardens and farms in the St. Louis region, visit the Carver Garden, and discuss approaches to choosing and arranging plants. Teachers are encouraged to consider the Kemper Center a resource for ideas when planning their own school gardens.

Other Places to Explore...

Make the most of your visit by taking your students to explore the following areas after your program:

1. The Victorian District - Visit Henry Shaw’s country home and experience what life was like in St. Louis during the mid-1800s. Then enjoy the Kaiser Maze and the ornate Victorian gardens.

2. The Climatron Axis - Walk through a tropical rainforest and explore the interactive exhibits in the Brookings Interpretive Center. Don’t miss the bog and Moorish gardens in the Schoenberg Temperate House!

3. The Linnean House - See one of the oldest greenhouses in the United States. Enjoy our camellia and succulent collections, and stroll through the Gladney Rose Garden.

Logistics for Teachers

- Each Seasonal Snapshot program lasts 2 hours and serves a maximum of 60 students.
- Up to two programs may be booked on the same day at the same time, pending availability.
- Program fees include admission for up to six adults per 30 students. (Additional adults will be charged normal admission rates.) Please try to bring at least one adult for every five students.
- Groups booking this program may eat lunch in their assigned program space if they wish. (Please note that picnicking on the Garden’s grounds is prohibited.)
- Program availability is limited! Book early!

For more information or to book this program, please visit www.mobot.org/schoolprograms or call the School Programs office at 314-577-5185.