**1st Grade - How Does the Garden Grow?**

**Put on your thinking hats and gardeners’ gloves! As you stroll along look for evidence of how life in the garden changes with the seasons, and in what ways California native plants and animals adapt to these changes. Learn about plant and animal life cycles and how offspring can differ in physical form from their adult counterparts. Through keen observation, learn to recognize the individual parts of a plant, and understand how each part contributes to the plant’s overall survival.**

*This is an inquiry driven tour focusing on observations using the senses of sight, hearing, touch and smell. Shown garden examples emphasize using higher level thinking skills of asking questions, identifying similarities, and comparing and contrasting key features in animals and plants-(flower & plant color, leaf shape, size & edges, smell).*

**CA NGSS Highlights may include:**

**a. Distinguish the different parts to a plant (flowers, stem, leaves, roots, fruits). Leaves have the same function but many forms. All parts are designed to help the plant survive.**

**b. Plants and animals have young that usually resemble the parents but may have some variation. Individuals of a species share recognizable traits but may vary.**

**c. Plants and animals can respond to inputs using specialized receptors or adaptations that aid in survival.**

**d. Life in the garden changes with the seasons (plant growth, flowering, death or dormancy, animal/bird & insect migration).**