

**Magnuson Nature Programs Garden Games**  
**Compiled by Emily Bishton**

- “Camera Game” activity: (Joseph Cornell)
  - Kids partner up in pairs;
  - One child is the “camera” and one is the “photographer”;
  - The “camera” keeps their eyes closed and the “photographer” leads them to a part of the garden where there something interesting to take a “photo” of;
  - When the “photographer” gently squeezes the “camera’s” shoulders and says click, the “camera” opens their eyes to take a photo;
  - Kids switch roles.
  
- “Meet a Plant” activity: (Joseph Cornell)
  - Kids partner up in pairs;
  - One child keeps their eyes closed and the other guides them to a plant that is near the edge of a raised bed or the Native Plant Garden path, to “meet” it
  - The child with eyes closed touches and/or smells the plant, etc. to “meet” it;
  - The other child then leads them away from it to another part of the garden;
  - With eyes open, the child then tries to found the plant they “met”;
  - Kids switch roles.
  
- Garden Poetry: (Joseph Cornell)
  - One child thinks up the first line to a garden poem, then the next child thinks up a line that will rhyme, then the next child, and so on. An adult or older child is the scribe and writes it down to laugh over when it’s done.
  - Children learn a garden poem below by repeating it together several times. Then they take turns saying a line from the poem aloud while the rest of the group listens and waits their turn. (Set up good conditions for listening as an audience.)

<p><b>My Garden</b>          This is my garden, I'll plant it with care,          Here are the seeds I'll plant in there,          The sun will shine,          The rain will fall,          The seeds will sprout and grow up tall.</p>	<p><b>Little Seed</b>          I dig a hole and plant a seed,          Cover it with dirt, and pull a weed.          Down comes the rain, and out comes the sun,          Up grows my plant,          Oh! What fun!</p>
<p><b>Seeds</b>          A little seed for me to sow          A little earth to make it grow          A little hole, a little pat,          A little wish, and that is that,          A little sun, a little shower.          A little while -          And then, a flower!</p>	<p><b>Sunflower</b>          Sunflower, sunflower, standing straight and tall,          Sunflower, sunflower, you're the tallest flower of          them all!          Sunflower, sunflower, when your seeds fall to the          ground,          Sunflower, sunflower, by the squirrels they'll be          found!</p>