S is for Spinach 4.
Finding the Facts

For the Classroom:
- Group structure - whole group or small groups
- Location - in the garden or at seats
- Approximate time - 25 minutes

Common Core and Georgia Standards of Excellence:
- S1L1a. Develop models to identify the parts of a plant—root, stem, leaf, and flower.
- CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.2.2. Write informative/explanatory texts in which they introduce a topic, use facts and definitions to develop points, and provide a concluding statement or section.

Materials:
- Spinach, growing in the garden or harvested in the classroom
- Magnifying glasses (1 per child)

Reproducibles:
- “Informational Mind Map” Sheet (1 per child)

Directions:
1. Observe a spinach plant in the garden (or harvested spinach in the classroom) closely with a magnifying glass. Show children the spinach leaf and ask them what part of the plant it is.
2. Explain that they will write an informational paragraph that includes other observable facts about spinach.
3. Distribute one of the “Informational Mind Map” sheets to each child.
4. Instruct children to write three details/facts from their observations of spinach.

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