

Project

Name: _____

Grade: _____

Material:

Plants (use the Edible Perennial Chart, from the internet) 1 sheet Coroplast (plastic corrugated sheet) Metal landscape stakes Permanent markers 1-2 shovels for large shrubs 10 small trowels 1-2 bags pea gravel Garden journals Pencils

Preparation:

1. Before class, prepare the area you would like to use as your perennial bed by digging and loosening the soil, as well as removing all weeds. If you have heavy clay, consider adding something like Clay Busters to help break up the soil. 2. Cut the sheet of Coroplast into rectangles (3" x 8"). Make sure that the tubes run vertically. Ease a metal stake in between the corrugations so that you have a sign. 3. Bring all of the supplies outside. Keep the trowels to one side. 4. Hook up a hose or other watering source.

Activity:

1. Place the plants around where you think they will look best. Arrange taller plants towards the west or north, so that they will not shade the shorter plants in the morning. Make sure that plants with similar water requirements are together. Raspberries and blackberries will need support, either a short fence or near stakes.
2. Give the learners trowels and show them how to remove plants from their pots: Place the pot on its side on the ground and slowly roll the container back and forth to loosen the soil. Grasp it by the base and slide it out of the pot. Gently pull the roots apart so that the roots will grow out and not in a circle.
3. Place the plant into the hole and pat the soil around it. It should be level with the ground, not sitting above it.
4. Place mulch around the plants. Water them thoroughly.
5. Give each learner a sign and a sharpie. Have them write the name of the plant on the sign and place it next to the plant.

