

## Session 10: Permaculture Gardening

**Context:** Introduction to Permaculture Design course

**Duration:** 60 minutes

**Aims:** To integrate previous learning about principles and get students thinking about how the principles are applied in a garden.

**Learning outcomes:** By the end of the session students will:

- Be able to identify some of the principles
- Describe how principles are demonstrated in a real world setting

### **Method & timings:**

This session takes the form of a treasure hunt game. Before the session, place one set of principles cards around the garden at locations where each principle is demonstrated; for example, tie the “obtain a yield” card onto a fruiting apple tree...

**5 minutes establish teams & distribute cards:** ask the group to line themselves up in order of perceived gardening knowledge – most experienced gardener at one end, least experienced at the other. It doesn't matter if it isn't exact.

Now split the line into pairs starting from the ends and working inwards – this pairs up the most experienced gardener with the least, the second most experienced with the second-least and so on. This gives each team a fair share of the whole group's gardening knowledge.

Now ask each pair in turn to pick a card from the deck of 'principles cards'. Repeat this until all the cards have been dealt out.

**30 Minutes treasure hunt:** Now send the teams out into the garden and ask them to find the corresponding cards to the ones they have. When they find their cards, they should consider & discuss how that principle is demonstrated in that location.

**25 minutes whole group exercise:** gather everyone back together and go round each pair in turn asking them to describe which principle(s) they had, and how they thought the garden demonstrated that principle. It doesn't matter if their answers are different to what you were thinking when you placed the cards – just that they've thought about it.

**Resources:** 2 sets of permaculture principles cards (see resources\handouts folder); a permaculture or forest garden.

**NOTES:** It's a good idea to laminate the principles cards.