Activity: Layout a Planting!

This activity kit includes:

- Instructions Master – make copies as needed
- 20 blank grids
- 20 grids with soil issues noted
- 24 dry-erase markers
- CD with activity and accompanying presentation

Layout a Planting!

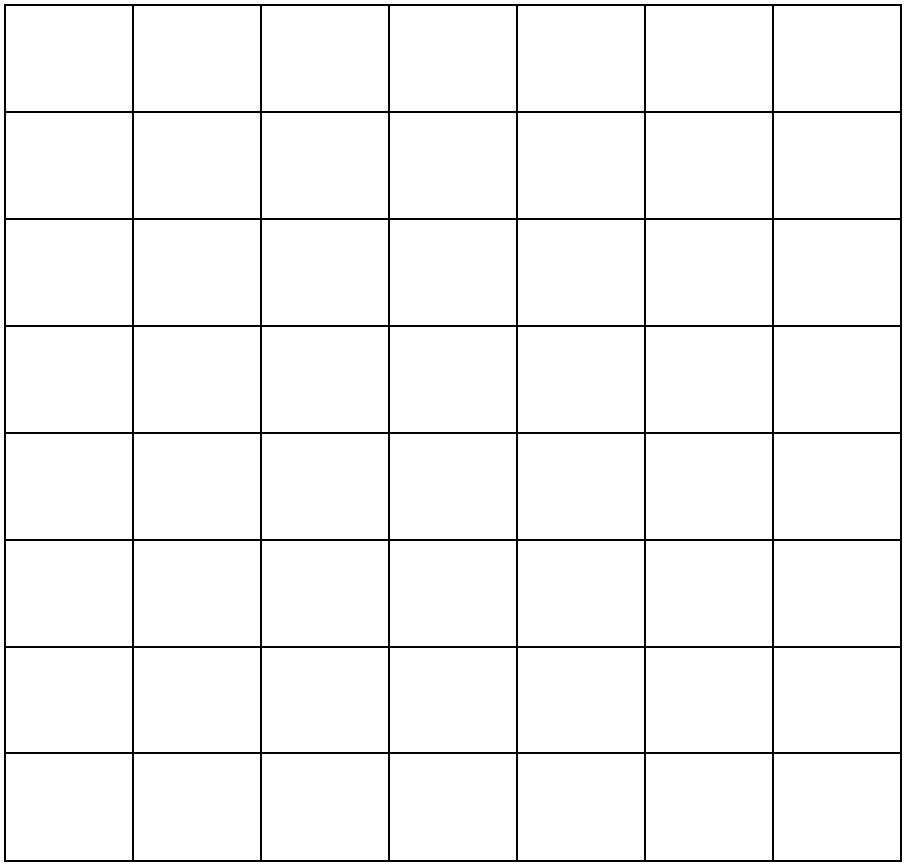
You will need:

Transparency grid: write on the shiny side ONLY
Dry-erase marker

The grid represents your site's available planting space. Your planting should include the following:

- 23 trees from Line 1 (1)
- 23 trees from Line 2 (2)
- 6 American chestnuts (A)
- 6 Chinese chestnuts (C)
- 6 F1 hybrid chestnuts (F1)

Using a dry erase marker, place the appropriate number of symbols for each type of tree in the planting spaces. Layout the planting in whatever way comes to mind first.



Let's see how you did…

This planting site has some ledge close to the soil surface, which prevented some chestnuts from growing. Any space marked with an "X" had too much ledge to allow a chestnut to grow and trees planted in those spots died. Overlay this map with the planting lay-out you created and see how many of each type of tree are remaining. Do you see why it is important to randomize within a planting?

					X	X
					X	
X						
X				X		
X	X					
X	X	X				
	X	X				
		X				

Let's see how you did…

The soil at this planting site was compacted by heavy equipment during a logging operation. Any space marked with an "X" had soil that was too compacted to allow a chestnut to grow and trees planted in those spots died. Overlay this map with the planting lay-out you created and see how many of each type of tree are remaining. Do you see why it is important to randomize within a planting?

				X	X	X
				X	X	X
				X	X	X

Let's see how you did…

There is a seep under this planting site and some areas are too damp to support chestnut. Any space marked with an "X" had soil that was too wet to allow a chestnut to grow and trees planted in those spots did not survive. Overlay this map with the planting lay-out you created and see how many of each type of tree are remaining. Do you see why it is important to randomize within a planting?

X						
X						
X	X					
X	X					
X	X	X				
X	X	X	X			

Let's see how you did…

There is a fragipan soil horizon under parts of this planting site. Any space marked with an "X" had soil that was too dense to allow a chestnut to grow and trees planted in those spots did not live. Overlay this map with the planting lay-out you created and see how many of each type of tree are remaining. Do you see why it is important to randomize within a planting?

X						
X	X					
X	X					
X	X					
	X					

Let's see how you did…

Surprise! The soil at this planting site is great but a critter got in and started eating planted nuts. Any space marked with an "X" became dinner for a lucky chipmunk and there is no tree. Overlay this map with the planting lay-out you created and see how many of each type of tree are remaining. Do you see why it is important to randomize within a planting?

					X	
					X	
				X	X	
				X	X	X
						X
						X

Let's see how you did…

The soil at this planting site has a couple of large rocks below the soil surface. Any space marked with an "X" had a rock in the way and did not allow a chestnut to grow. The trees planted in those spots died. Overlay this map with the planting lay-out you created and see how many of each type of tree are remaining. Do you see why it is important to randomize within a planting?

			X			
						X
		X	X			