



1. The Outdoor, Indoor.—Autumn is the fruit season and therefore the season of collections. And children of school age are in the collecting stage of their existence. So put the two together and encourage collections of all sorts: of fruits of the apple and pear type, of the nut type, of the grains, of the weed-seeds, of seeds of the garden, flowers.

Numberless lessons can be taken on the fruits. The apple itself makes a big subject. There is its whole story, from the care of the orchard soil, and the care of the tree, heading, pruning, grafting, spraying, to the growth of the apple itself from flower to full-grown fruit. There is the observation lesson on that, its parts and their uses, stem, eye, skin, flesh, seed-compartments and seeds. Cut the apple across to show the five-pointed star, just as many seed-cases as there are petals in the blossom. Along with this goes the lesson on variety, early and winter varieties, the children bringing named varieties from home for the lesson. Don't allow an unnamed apple, so as to safeguard yourself. Take the apple lesson with the whole school if it is the first time it has been taught and let the children trade apples and eat them in school when you are through. They are ready then to give an opinion on the texture and flavour. For another afternoon let the girls prepare papers or speeches, using their home knowledge and their mothers' cook-books on different methods of cooking apples, good and poor cookers, and desserts which can be made with them. For yourself read all that John Burroughs has to say about apples in "Winter Sunshine". "The apple is indeed the fruit of youth. As we grow old we crave apples less. It is an ominous sign. When you are ashamed to be seen eating them on the street; when you carry them and your hand not constantly find its way to them; when your neighbour has apples and you have none and you make no nocturnal visits to his orchard; when your lunch-basket is without them, and you can pass a winter's night