

## THINGS TO GROW IN THE SCHOOL ROOM AND ON THE SCHOOL GROUNDS.

What to do in October.

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(Special to the EDUCATIONAL REVIEW.)

Among the very first things you will do, of course, will be to aid the children in gathering, classifying and arranging a most wonderful collection of autumn leaves. Every teacher will find it an easy matter to do that, even if located in a large city. Such a collection will afford material for the very best lessons in language, composition, nature study, primary number work, primary color work, advanced drawing, and water or oil color painting as well as botany.

Right at the very beginning of October you should have all pupils supplied with a note book which they may label as "The Nature Study Diary." such a book may be kept in many different ways but the following plan will be found very simple, easy to understand, convenient for reference and valuable after it is completed. Start with the first left page and space between the lines below so that the columns will occupy two full pages with the following divisions: Month, day, subject, where found, colors, type, how used, results.

Other items or columns may be added if you wish. You will be able to secure a number of very beautiful cut flowers for study this month too, although it is late in the year. Among the flowers in bloom around you there should be an abundant supply of Gladioli, Chrysanthemums, Cosmos, Blue Mist, Floss Flower (Ageratum), Marigold (Calendula), Dahlias, Lobelia (Cardinal Flower), Roses, Cannas.

Bring or have the pupils bring some of each of the above to the school room and make a study of the size, shape, color, growth and kind of each. Make careful and accurate notes of all such observations in your diaries and then arrange the flowers in bouquets to decorate the room.

I have seen these diaries arranged with a sheet

of water color paper between each sheet of data, and by the co-operation of the art teacher and the teachers of the different grades, the text of the diary was in each case most beautifully illustrated by paintings of one or more of the flowers or leaves studied. Of course such diaries were made in loose leaf form by the pupils themselves as a part of their construction work.

In the matter of indoor planting you might start a window box or pot of pansies. If you can find good seed you will be able to get good results and the seed of well known dealers may be relied upon.

This is also the proper time to sow all of the following flowers out of doors so they will bloom early next spring: Spirea—plants or roots, Pansies—seed, English Daisies—seed, Sweet William—seed, Violets—roots or seed, Phlox—roots, Chrysanthemums—roots.

Have the boys prepare a flower bed about six by ten feet somewhere in the school yard and plant it solid with the above hardy flowers and next spring you will be amply rewarded by a mass of beautiful flowers.

(ED. NOTE:—Although most of the vacant plots should be used to raise vegetables, etc., at the present time, the above

instructions might well be followed where available space can be found, as nothing looks better than well kept school grounds.

### IN MEMORY OF THE LATE MISS ELEANOR ROBINSON.

Friends of Miss Eleanor Robinson  
purpose erecting as early as possible,  
a tablet to her memory in the Free  
Public Library, St. John, N. B.  
Anyone desiring to subscribe, even  
a small sum, towards this, may do  
so by sending the amount to the  
"Educational Review," or to Mrs.  
Silas Alward, 84 Burpee Avenue,  
St. John, N. B.

### THE GARY PLAN IN NEW YORK CITY.

Mr. William G. Wilcox, president of the board of education, has written to Dr. John H. Finley, New York state commissioner of education, asking that the matter of school organization for New York City by the duplicate system—the Gary plan—be given a full investigation and hearing before a commission whose decision all fair-minded citizens would accept. Dr. Finley has replied that his request for an investigation will be granted. He writes that the state started a survey of school systems in two other cities on September 1, and will begin in New York as soon as those tasks are finished or sooner if investigators can be obtained.