**Lesson Name:** Creating a Planting Calendar

**Main message:** You can use a grid format to plan out your planting plan and expected harvest window

**Time:** 45 minutes

**Location (classroom/field):** classroom

**Audience (Level):** Intermediate and Advanced

**Literacy/Numeracy level:** intermediate—need to be able to read dates and numbers

**Area of learning/Subject:** Crop Planning

**Competencies/Skills/Core Knowledge:**

Creating a Planting Calendar Grid

**Related activities:**

Reading a Table

**Learning objectives**

***By the end of the lesson farmers will…*:**

* Have created a planting calendar for their season

**Assessment evidence**

***Farmers will demonstrate their learning by…*:**

* Correctly filling in the table on the whiteboard
* Correctly filling in their planting calendar

**Pre-teaching Concepts:**

Reading a table

**ESL words of the Lesson:**

none

**Teaching Tips:**

**Background Notes/Reference Materials/Supporting Documents:**

Staff need to prepare:

* Planting dates for each crop for each farmer
* Days to Maturity for each crop for each farmer

**Materials:**

* Whiteboard
* Planting calendar grid prepared with each farmers’ crops, showing crop name, planting date and days to maturity to the left in the vertical column, and then weekly increments of dates horizontally across the top.
* Colored pencils or markers
* Whiteout
* Piece of paper or Ruler (may help farmers read the grid)

**Set-up:**

* Draw a table on the whiteboard with the names and photos for 3-4 crops on the rows and 3-4 spring dates in the columns. Dates should be 1 week apart.

**Steps:**

* Explain that tables are one way that you can arrange information about planting dates and harvest dates
* Demonstrate on the table on the whiteboard that there are 3-4 crops represented with photos and names and there are dates across the top.
* Ask for a volunteer to come up to the board. Explain that they will mark on the board the planting date for each crop, as you read it to them. “For the first crop \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, it will be planted on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. How would you represent this on the table?” Have the farmer mark an X or color in the space.
* You can have students trade off so each has a chance to mark the planting date for one crop
* Hand each farmer their blank planting calendar with the crops and dates written, but nothing marked in the grid.
* Explain that they note the planting date written next to each crop name, and find the correct corresponding date column; color it the square with a green colored pencil.
* Have each farmer share their calendar and together as a group, read the dates and ask the rest of the group if the correct box is filled in. If there are any incorrect ones, fill it in with whiteout and color in the correct box.
* For the next step, farmers can add their expected harvest dates and harvest windows onto their calendar by counting the Days to Maturity from their planned planting date. Color the harvest time in a different color.

**Alternatives**

**Reflection *What did farmers learn? How do I know? What did I learn? How will I improve my lesson next time?*:**

**Participant Evaluation**

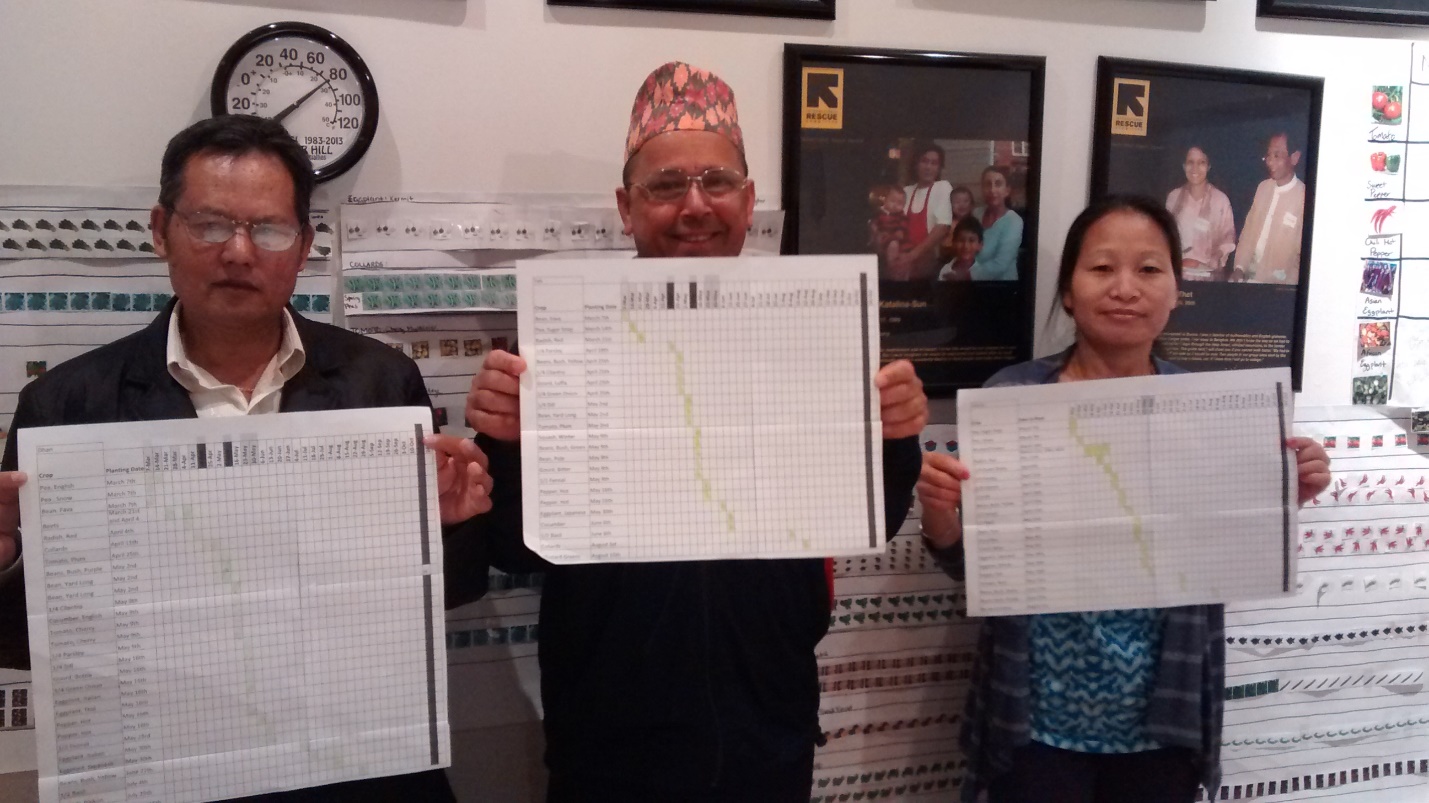
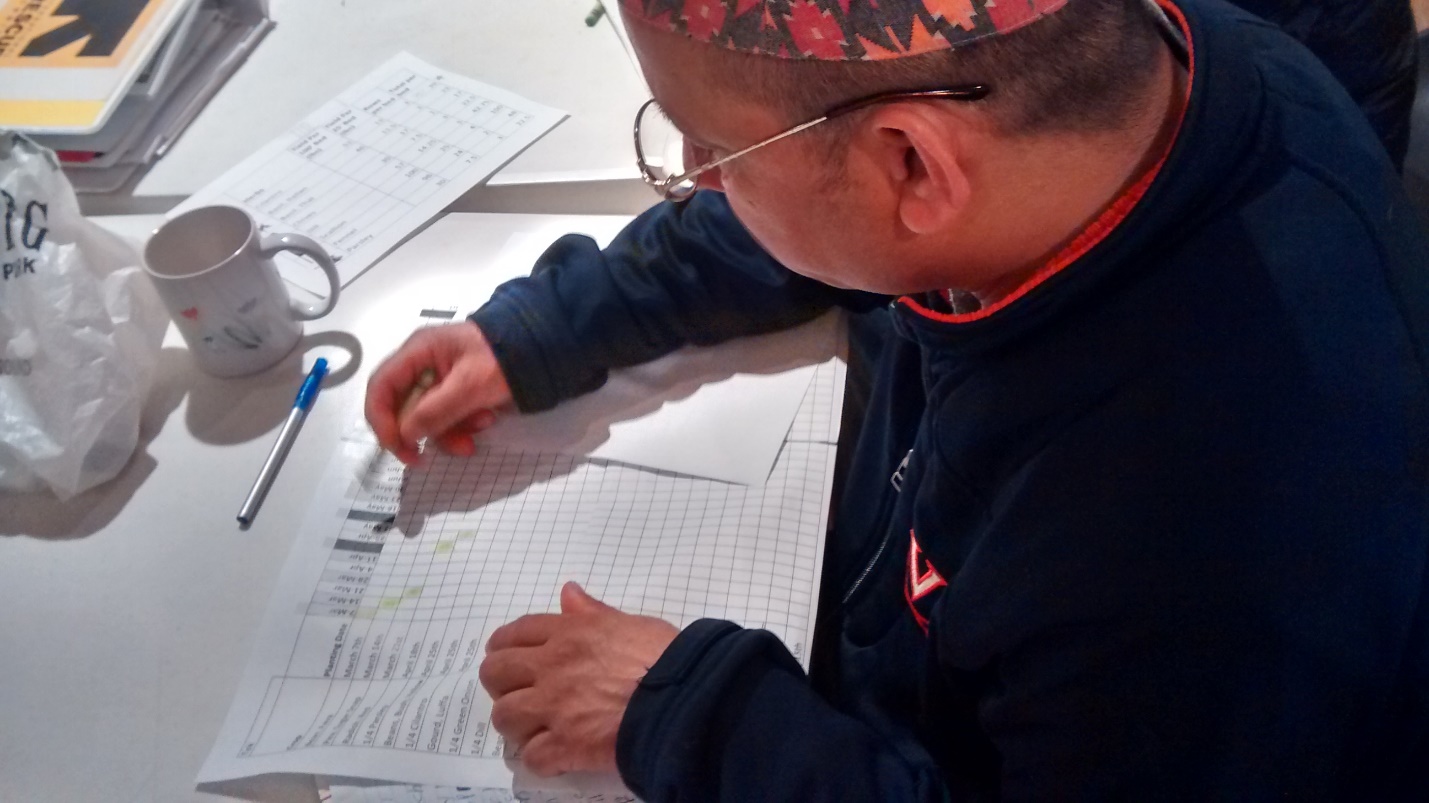
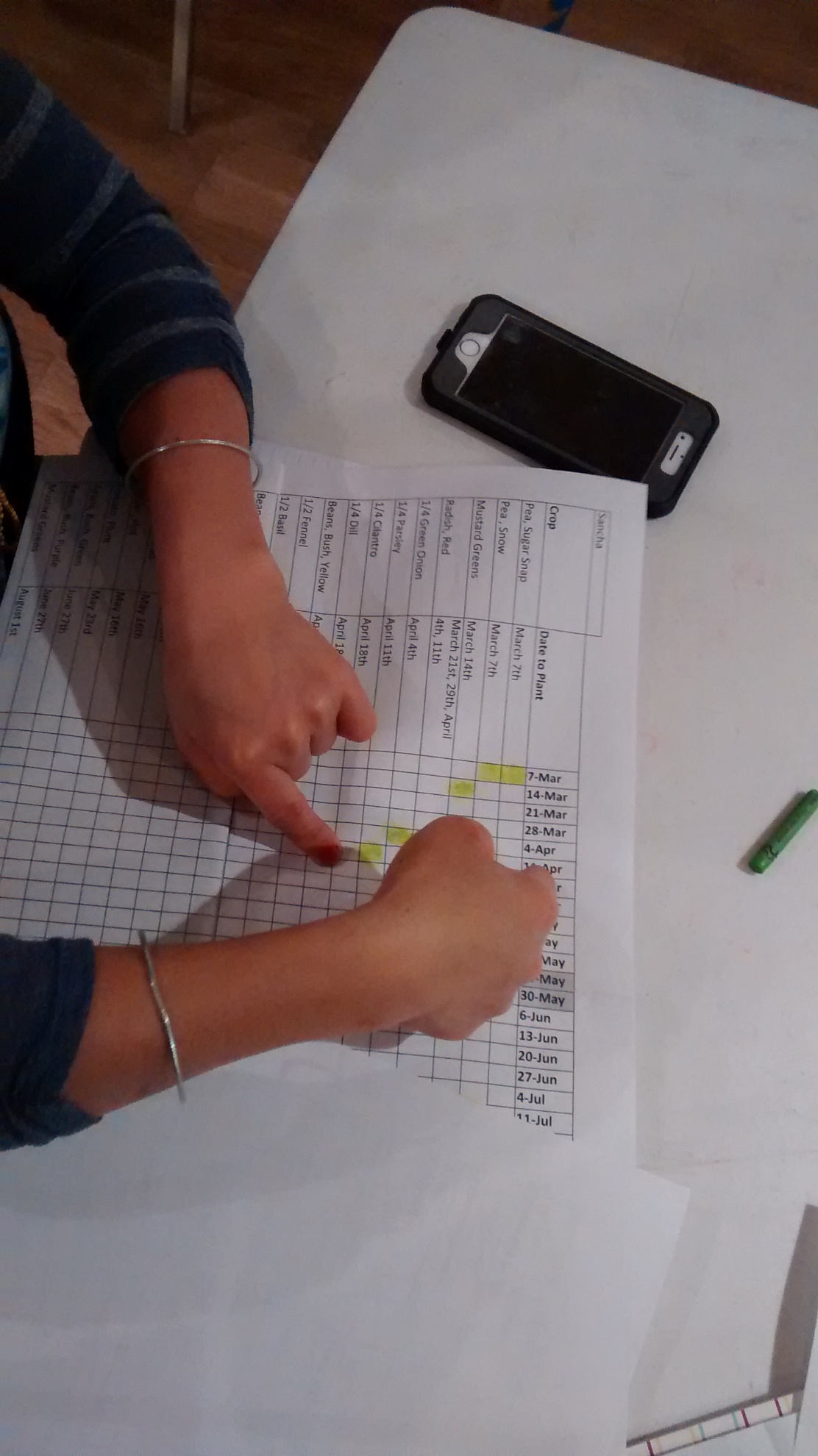
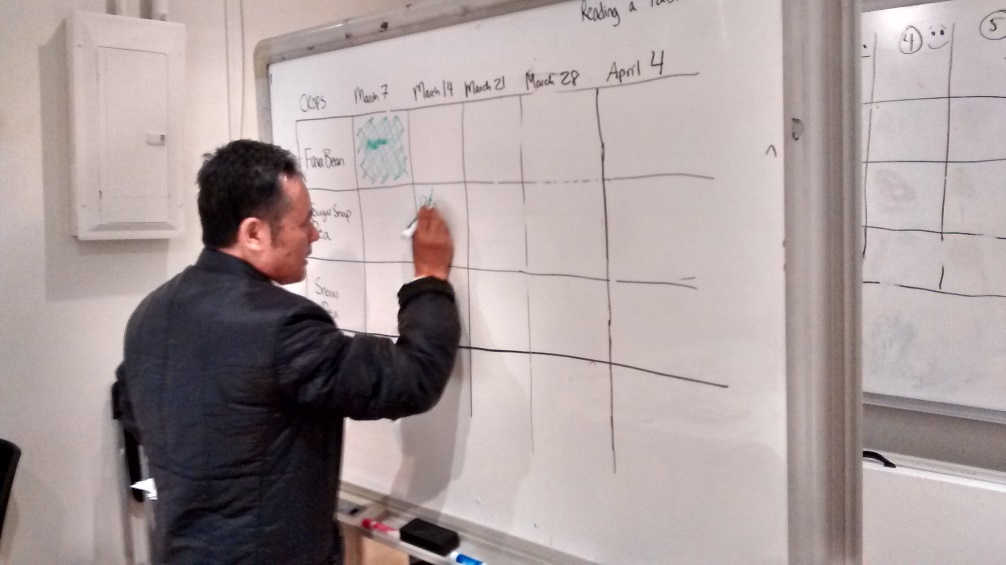
How much did you like this activity?

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| **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** |
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| **Comments:** |  |  |  |  |

Did you feel like you learned something?

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| **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** |
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| **Comments:** |  |  |  |  |

**Accompanying Photos:**

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