**Exploratory Observation**

**1. Observation Focus:  
You will observe how Linda, Cindy, and Sandra manage their local gardens without digital tools. Focus on:**

（1）How they plan garden layouts.

（2）Their methods for collaboration (if they have).

（3）How they source or find local gardening resources.

**2. Task Objective:**

（1）Document the challenges they encounter during the planning and management stages.

（2）Identify any unmet needs or inefficiencies in their current processes.

**2. Observation Process**

**Linda's Observation**Linda manages her garden layouts by sketching them in a notebook and imagining different designs, but this method limits her ability to experiment visually. She tends to work alone, rarely seeking input from others. For resources, she primarily visits local garden stores, but she often faces difficulty finding specialized tools or plants she needs. Linda feels that better planning tools would help her explore new ideas and improve her gardening process.

**Cindy’s Observation**

Sandra is highly social and loves involving her neighbors in collaborative garden projects, but managing different ideas without digital tools becomes a challenge. She relies heavily on conversations with community members to discover new gardening resources, which sometimes limits her access to more specialized items. Sandra expressed a need for more interactive tools to help streamline the collaborative process, such as real-time communication features, as well as an easier way to source local gardening supplies.

**Cindy’s Observation**

All three participants demonstrated a need for improved tools to facilitate garden planning, collaboration, and resource sourcing. Linda struggles with visualizing layouts, Cindy finds collaboration difficult without digital tools, and Sandra faces limitations in accessing resources and managing group projects. An integrated platform that offers real-time collaboration, efficient resource discovery, and visual planning tools could significantly improve their gardening experience.

**Summary:**

All three participants demonstrated a need for improved tools to facilitate garden planning, collaboration, and resource sourcing. Linda struggles with visualizing layouts, Cindy finds collaboration difficult without digital tools, and Sandra faces limitations in accessing resources and managing group projects. An integrated platform that offers real-time collaboration, efficient resource discovery, and visual planning tools could significantly improve their gardening experience.

**Based on this observation, we have proposed some initial design concepts:**

1. A visual garden planning tool that helps users intuitively plan and experiment with garden layouts on a web-based virtual platform.

2. Development of collaborative features, enabling real-time tools for users like Cindy and Sandra to work together on garden projects.

3. Integration of efficient local resource search and filtering functionalities to simplify the process of acquiring gardening tools and plants.