GROWING GARDEN EDUCATORS

Sustaining Your Garden Program

October 11, 2025

Nate Northup, School Gardens

Stephen Cantu, Friendly Inclusive Gardening

Master Gardener Association of San Diego County

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Agriculture and Natural Resources
UC Master Gardener Program

MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION
of San Diego County

Who are the Master Gardeners?

- ❑ 6,328 MG volunteers in California
- ❑ 510,000 hours donated in 2024
- ❑ Trained by University of California Cooperative Education
- ❑ Supported by County Extension Offices
- ❑ 354 active MG's in SD County
- ❑ 112 MG's consulting 900 SD schools

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Topics for Session B: *Sustaining* Your Garden

1. **Soil** - importance of amended soil; matching the plant with the soil; planting tips
2. **Pests** - general info: prevent and protect
3. **Maintenance** - life in the garden; irrigation tips
4. **Teaching** in the Garden
5. **Funding** for maintaining and improving
6. **Improvements** - seed starting; accessibility

1 SOIL: All Important to Your Success

The right plant in the right place, along with this recipe:

Soil (fertile)

+ Sun (8+ hrs/day)

+ Water (not too much)

= SUCCESS!

Soil: Vegetables Need Nutrition to Grow

Photo: Jonathan Kemper, Unsplash

Photo credit - MGASDC

Amended soil is dark, earthy and pliable

5 Essential Functions of Soil

Regulating water

Sustaining plant and animal life

Providing physical stability and support

Cycling nutrients

Filtering and buffering potential pollutants

Images: Canva

Soil Triangle

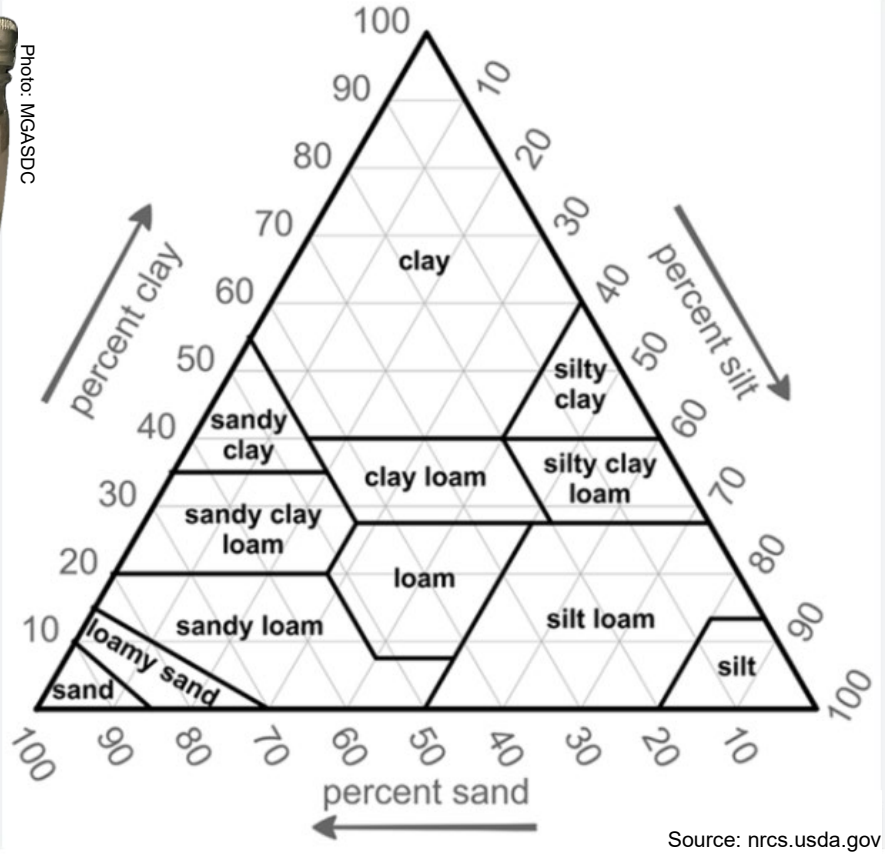

Photo: MGASDC

To Assess your Soil

-Soil Jar Test

-Ribbon Test


Photo: MGASDC



Source: nrcs.usda.gov

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Soil Color is a Clue

Color	Organic Matter (OM)
Black	High in organic matter (4% or more)
Brown	Good organic matter (OM) content and well-drained
Red	Low in organic matter, well drained; color is due to the presence of iron
Gray	Low in organic matter, poorly-drained
Yellow	Low in organic matter, well-drained
Mottled	Mottling effects in subsoil indicates both well and poorly drained conditions during the year due to fluctuations in water table

Goal:

Lots of OM & “well-drained” = **black or dark- brown soil**

“Right Place” Includes *Soil*

Sandy soil = Root vegetables, natives, cactus, succulents

Clay soil = Natives, sages, California poppies, penstemon, oat grass, sedge, buckwheat

Acidic soil = Lower pH (<7.0): blueberries, tomatoes, ceanothus, Western Redbud

Alkaline soil = Higher pH (>7.0): beets, cabbage

Soil Amendments: Raised Beds or Containers

1. **Soil amendment: 20%**

   Amendments could include compost, worm castings, fertilizer and *composted* chicken manure* (preferably all of them)

Photo: John Jacobs, SDUSD

1. **Bagged potting soil: 80%**

- Mix well and fill soil to top of container
- Water well before planting
- Plan to amend soil annually

Photo: Jonathan Kemper, Unsplash

**Check with your school's rules, especially those with farm-to-table programs, as some sites may have allergy or health concerns with certain products*

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Soil Amendments: *In-Ground* Beds

Recipe per 50-ft row:

1. **Soil-Building Compost** (e.g. G&B) - **Use 15 gallons** (5-gal paint buckets x 3)
2. **Composted chicken manure** with 1-4-2 fertilizer and 10% calcium (e.g. EZ Green) - **Use ½ bag** (25 lbs)
3. **Worm castings** (e.g. Worm Gold Plus. Make or buy good quality castings, not cheap dried-out stuff; don't scrimp!) **Use 1 bag** (20 dry quarts)
4. **Balanced fertilizer** - (e.g. Dr. Earth All Purpose 4-4-4 Organic Fertilizer) **Use 9 cups.**

Credit: MGASDC

(Thanks fo Farmer Roy for sharing recipe, friend of the UC Master Gardeners of San Diego County)

Grow Cover Crops
Maximize Presence of Living Roots

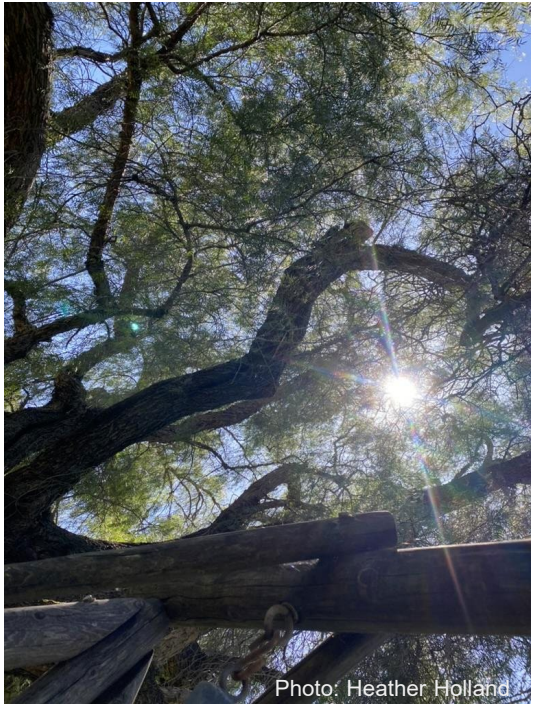
- Build soil fertility
- Increase soil organic matter
- Suppress weeds
- Protect soil from wind and water erosion
- Provide habitat for beneficial insects and earthworms
- Loosen soil without digging. Roots reach down deeper than any shovel
- Fix nitrogen in the soil. Research shows that legume crops, especially vetch, are the best for nitrogen fixing
- Suppress some harmful soil-dwelling nematodes: Mustard plants do this naturally
- Provide aesthetic addition to winter gardens

Source: UCANR. MarinMG.ucanr.edu/edibles/CoverCropsEtc

The “Right Place” Needs Sun

Fruits and vegetables need at least 8 hours of sun per day, during growing season

Less than 8 hours, consider shade-tolerant plants (ferns, hummingbird sage, lettuce, some herbs)



The “Right Place” Needs Water

How much? Where? When?

- Take advantage of expert suggestions to improve your irrigation system

- How will you water over vacation/summer breaks?

Inline Irrigation

Inline drip irrigation system best for veggies

Drip system wets only the soil, minimizing disease risk, moderating soil moisture

Mulch on top of ½” supply and drip lines to lower soil temperature, slow evaporation and build soil

¼ inch drip lines emit water every 6 or 12 inches

Use with a battery operated controller

Photos: Heather Holland

Raised Bed Irrigation Summary

Vegetables thrive when given a consistent, reliable source of water.
In a sunny raised beds during growing season:

Water sown seeds twice daily; young plants daily

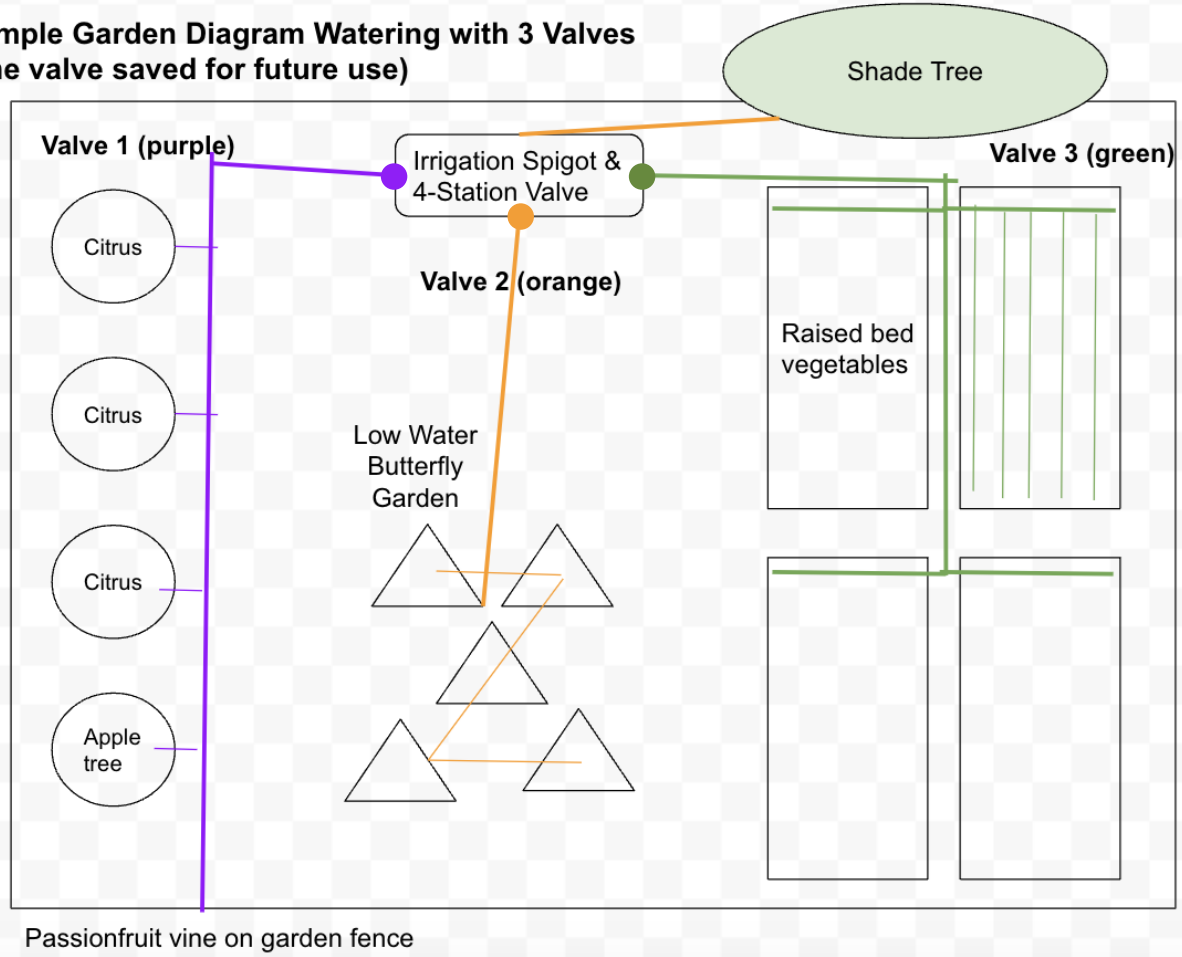
Most established vegetables need water only every other day

Turn off irrigation in the rain

Don’t water empty beds; include shut off valves

Photo: Webdam, ANR

Irrigating Raised Beds & More!!



- Group plants with similar water needs into a hydrozone
- One valve per hydrozone
- Several valves on single controller (battery/solar or electric)

“Right plant”: Planting Tips

Choose for the seasons:

- cool v. warm

Plan ahead:

- soil prep
- seeds v “starts”
- equipment/help

Keep a garden diary/log:

- what, when, who
- progress, results
- digital photos?

Credit: Erda Estremera, Unsplash

Two Vegetable Planting Seasons in San Diego

Warm: Plant March - Summer

Cool: Plant Oct - Feb

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Plants That are Easiest to Grow in Cool Season

Plant in the Fall - Winter


Photo: Webdam, ANR

Radishes

Peas

Beets

Chard


Photo: Tom Jur, Unsplash


Photo: Laura Lefurgey-Smith, Unsplash

Radishes can be grown from seed and harvested in about 40 days!

Less sun: Lettuce

Bok choi

Plant for Success: What is Easiest to Grow in Warm Season?

Plant in the Spring

Radishes

Beans

Sunflowers

Beets

Radishes can be planted by seed and harvested in about 40 days!

Less sun: lettuce

More sun: cherry tomato

Herbs and Flowers to Plant Now

Plant in the Fall:

Parsley
Thyme
Oregano
Sage
Cilantro
Chives


Photo: Chandan Chaurasia, Unsplash


Photo: Lucy Kral, Unsplash


Photo: Lisa on Unsplash

Nasturtium
Sweet Pea
Borage
CA Poppy
Bulbs: tulip, daffodil
Low Water: Rosemary

In a pot ONLY: Mint

Besides Veggies: Herbs and Flowers to Plant Later

Plant in Spring

Basil *(late spring)*
Parsley *(early spring)*
Thyme
Oregano
Sage
Chives *(early spring)*

Marigolds, Sunflowers

Low Water: Rosemary

In a pot ONLY: Mint

How to Plant

- Amend soil 7-10 days before planting
- Moisten the soil again just before planting
- Plant seedlings at same depth as in pot
- Gently water
- Extend the harvest by planting a start and sowing the same plant seed behind it (Starts are 1-2 months older than seeds)
- Label plant in pencil with name, variety and plant date

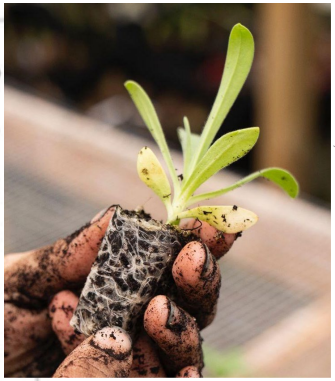

Photo: Webdam, ANR

‘Start’

Don’t Hesitate to Harvest

- Harvest frequently to keep the plant producing
- You are racing against critters to gather ripe fruit

Don’t Teach Critters That Your Garden is Their Smorgasbord

Fruit Trees Can be Fun

Must fertilize regularly
Shape trees when they're young
Most need annual/seasonal pruning
Some trees need annual spraying for pests
Chill hours can be important to fruit production

Easier → **Harder**

- Citrus 💧💧💧
- Persimmon 💧
- Pomegranate 💧
- Fig 💧
- Apples 💧💧


Photo: Webdam, ANR

- Avocados 💧💧💧💧
- Stone fruits 💧💧
- Banana 💧💧💧

💧 = water needs

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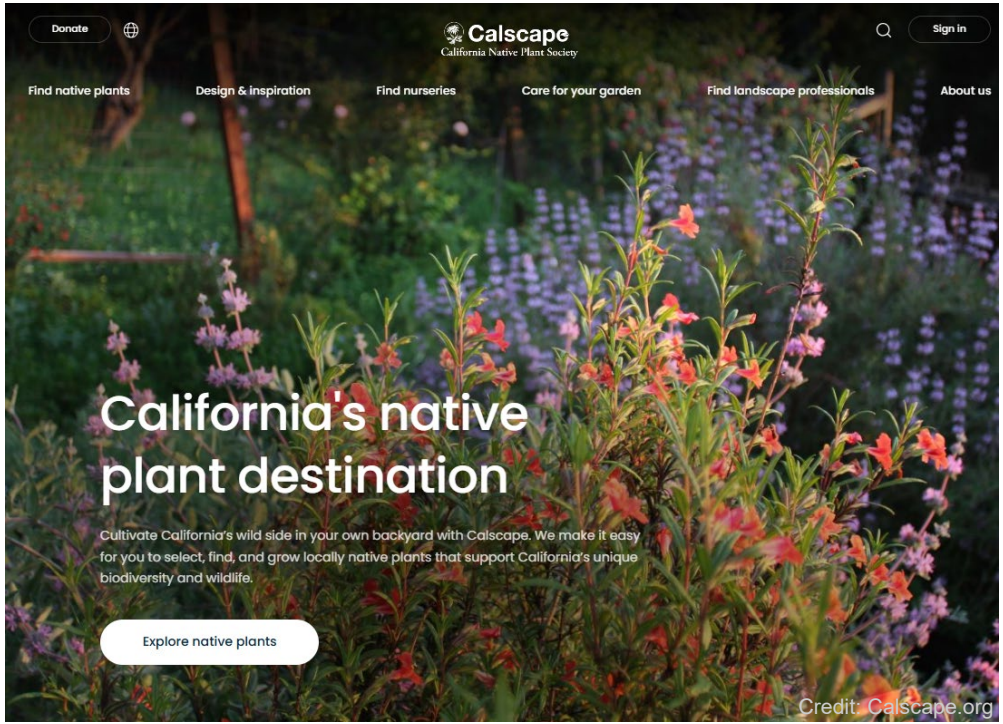
Themed Garden Ideas

- Pizza garden
- Three sisters garden
- Scent garden
- Pollinator garden with natives
- Square foot garden
- Herb garden
- Succulent garden
- Color wheel garden

Great Free Resource for “Right Plant-Right Place”

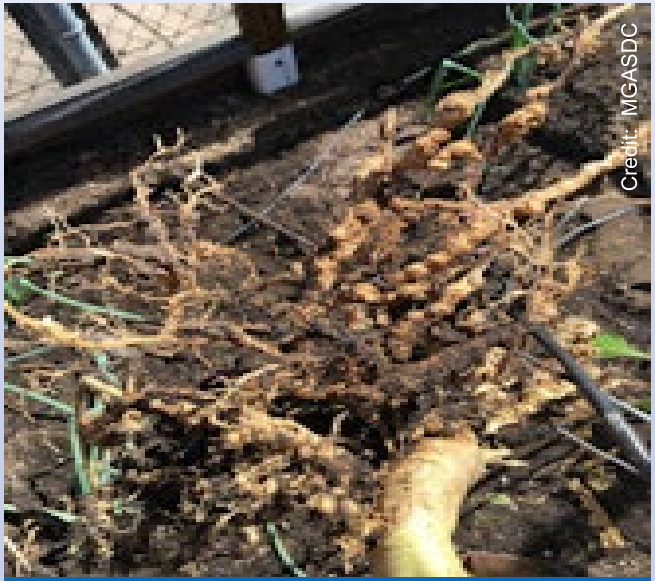
Calscape.org

Cf. California native plants only. No data on garden produce.



2 PESTS: Small and Large!

- Microscopic
- Subterranean
- Airborne
- Crawling
- Digging
- Winged
- Four-legged
- Other plants



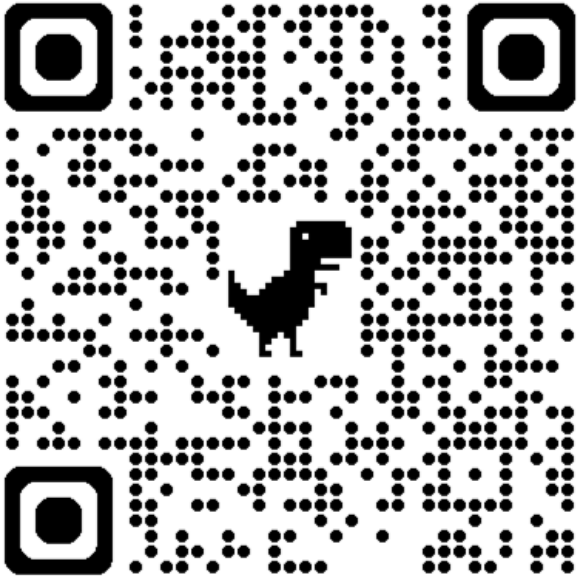
Root-knot nematode on tomato

What Is That Thing? What Can I Do About It?

Ask the experts!!

University of California, Agriculture & Natural Resources, Integrated Pest Management

Scientists to the Rescue!



ipm.ucanr.edu

Insect Pests You WILL Encounter

Photos: UCIPM

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Four-Legged Critters You'll Try to Exclude

Photos: UC IPM

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Managing Pests

Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

Environment-friendly approach that combines natural alternatives with other techniques to control and prevent garden pests

Control, not elimination, allows tolerance for some crop damage

Overuse of Pesticides

- Insects can develop resistance
- Can destroy beneficial organisms
- Misuse may harm environment

Weeds Are Also Pests

See a weed, pull a weed

… or use a tool!

Encourage Beneficials

Ladybug larvae

Ladybug Larvae Eating an Aphid

Predator Insects

Parasitic Wasp

Wikimedia commons: Ammophila sabulosa

Assassin Bug

Predator Insects

Fullerton Arboretum, Fullerton, Orange County, CA. 9/22/07. © Ron Hemberger

Robber Fly

Predator Insects

Syrphid or Hover Fly

Predator Insects

Tachinid Fly

Predator Spiders

Jumping Spider

Crab Spider

Forceful Spray of Water

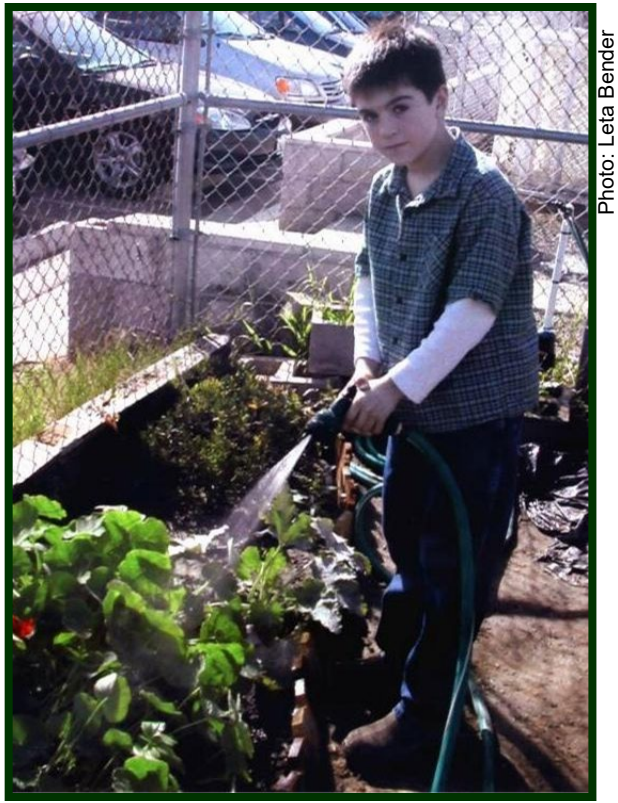

Photo: Leta Bender

Photo: UC IPM

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Protection Over Raised Beds Excludes 4-Legged and Winged Pests

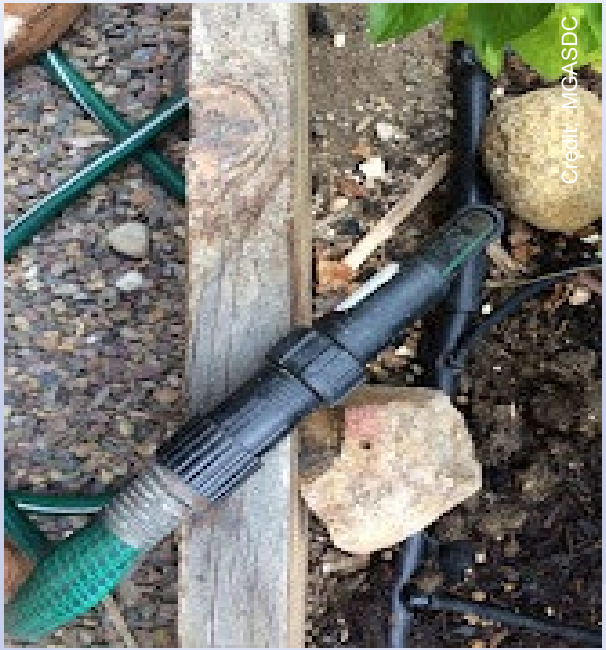
Lift-Off Cloche

Exclusion

To Deter Crawling Pests

3 KEEPING IT GOING: Challenges

- Volunteer issues
- Summer holidays
- Breakage/irrigation leaks
- Materials/supplies/tools
- Administration “support”



Recruiting volunteers

- Parents “age out”
- Busy schedules/teachers stretched thin
- “I’ve never gardened”
- Do I have to teach?
- Background check/TB clearance

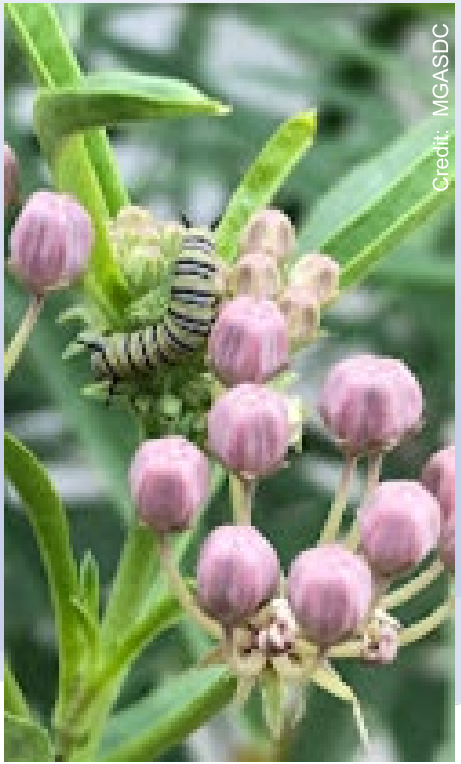
Warm Bodies & Cash/Materials

Recruiting ideas:

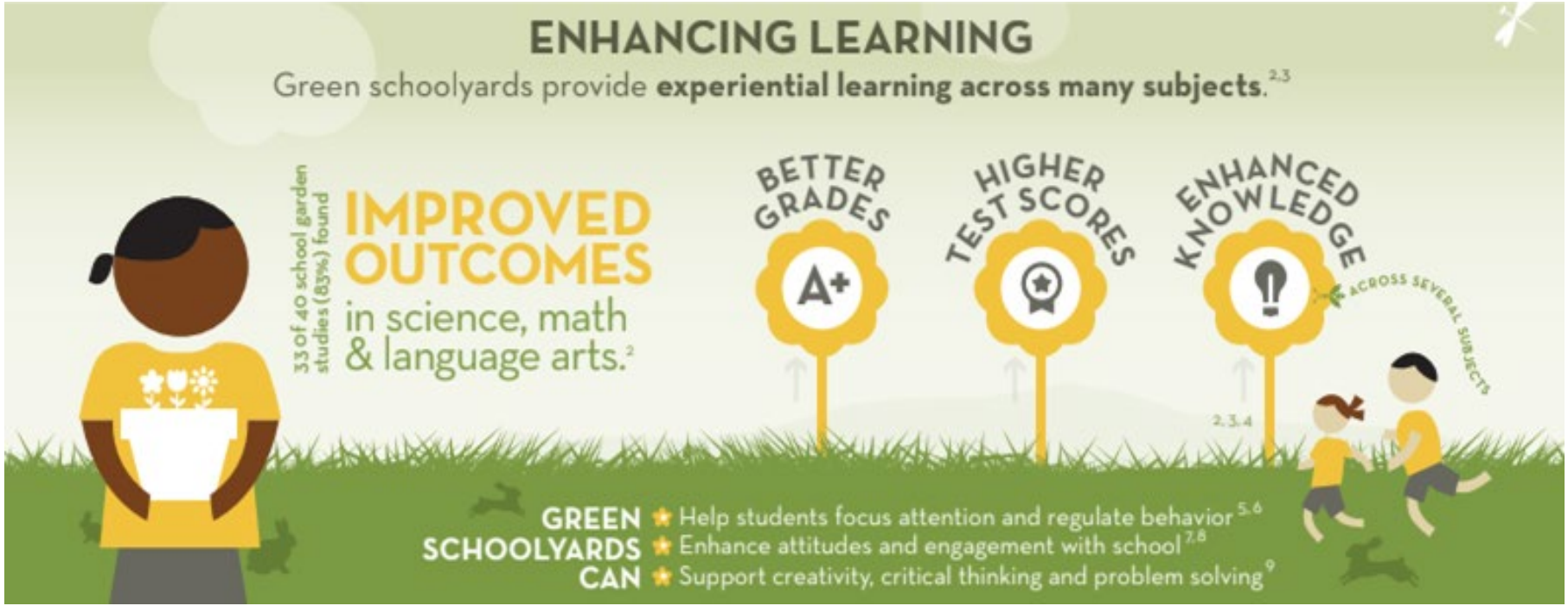
- Parent foundation
- “Aged out” parent loyalty
- Local garden clubs
- Phone/text tree
- One-time projects (follow up)

4 TEACHING IN THE GARDEN

- Why go Outside?
- How to Begin
- Setting Rules and Garden Layout
- NGSS Lessons for the Garden
- Grade Level Garden Lessons
- More Resources



Enhanced Learning Outside



Source: Children & Nature Network

Outside = Fewer Behavior Problems

Source: Children & Nature Network

How to Begin

- Garden = unique learning environment; neither recess nor indoor classroom
- Foster ownership, offer choices; include students in creating rules and expectations
- Let students do the work and decide what to do in the garden
  - What to grow, where to grow it
  - Let them make mistakes and learn from them

Set Rules in the Garden

Get Their Agreement on Simple, Clear Expectations

Photo: Upland Garden Club

Rules can cover:

- where students can and can't step
- treatment of plants and each other
- how to taste foods in the garden
- encouraging trying new things
- being adventurous

Review the rules each time you take students outside.

School Garden Rules Ideas

Garden Etiquette

1. Plant in soil do not play with it
2. Do not step on plants
3. Garden soil should not be walked on; otherwise it compacts and plants won't grow
4. Walk in the garden area, do not run
5. Always water gently or it will wash away seeds and plants

Excerpt from *Plant a Seed, Watch it Grow*

Tools

1. Keep tools out of pathways
2. Pointed tools should be laid down with points in soil
3. Keep tools below waist
4. Never use tools as toys
5. Share tools
6. Always clean tools before placing in designated area
7. Clean up litter

Safety Rules for Gardeners

1. Rocks are for walking on
2. Tools are to be kept below the waist
3. Water your plants, not your friends
4. Stay in the garden with your teacher
5. Touch everything, pick nothing (Unless you ask first)
6. Bugs are busy! Watch them work
7. Be safe and have fun!

Safety Rules from VIP Village in Imperial Beach

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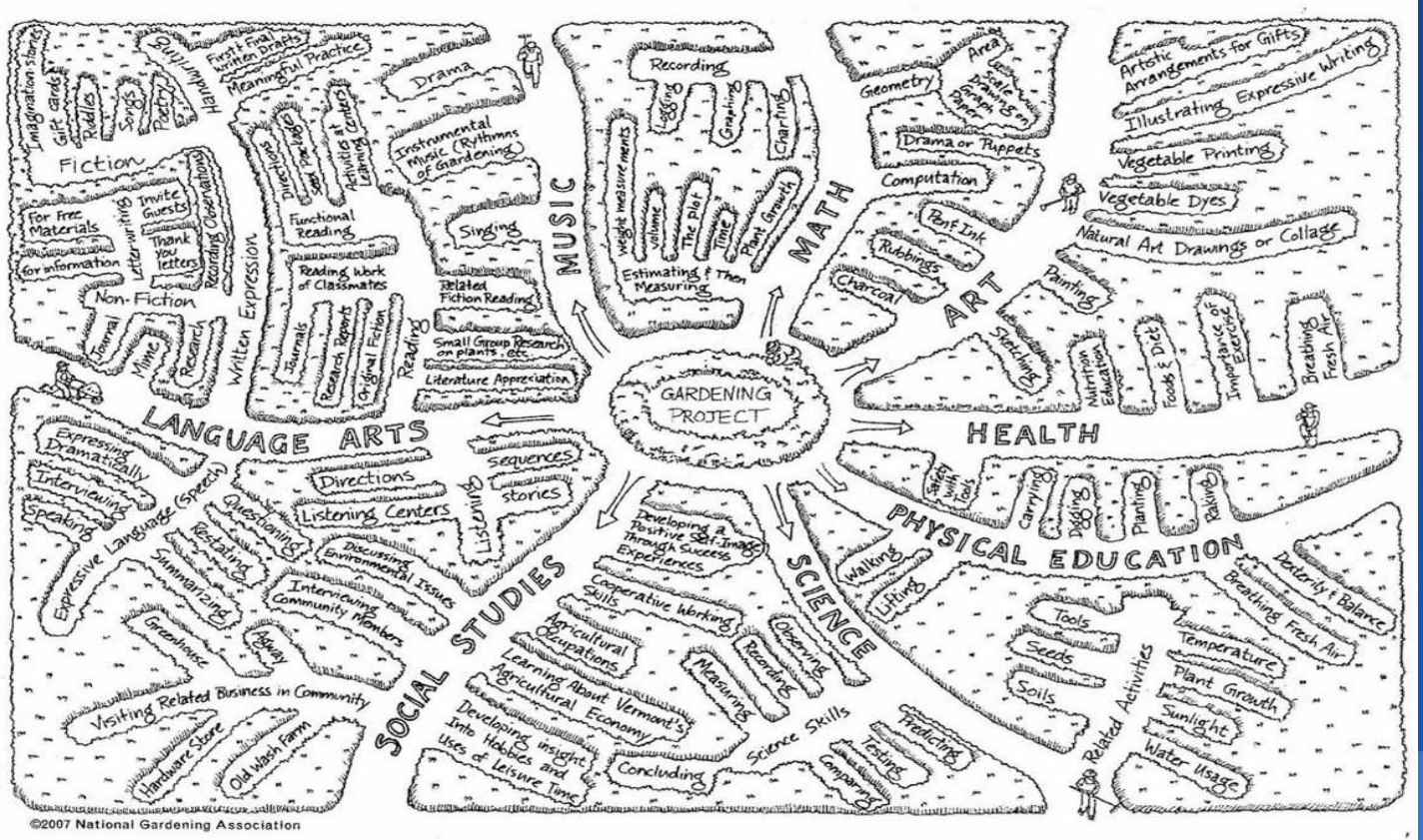
What subjects can be taught in the garden?

ALL OF THEM!!



Garden study plan reprinted with permission from the National Gardening Association (NGA). For more information on youth gardening contact NGA, 1100 Dorset Street, South Burlington, Vermont 05403; www.garden.org.

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Use this Two-Page Document to Guide You and Your Volunteers on How to Be Outdoors

How to Teach Children in an Outdoor Classroom

Ideas from *Taking FOSS Outdoors*

Students will be a bit wild and unaccustomed to learning outside. Outside typically means recess for children. With practice students will understand how to behave and how to learn while in an outdoor classroom. Expect better behavior outside with repeat experiences.

Outdoor Classroom Rules

- Setting rules before going outside is important. Have students help decide the rules.
- Create a document with rules, call it a contract and have students sign it.
- If rules are broken, student is given a warning. Next time the student is returned to the classroom and taken out of nature.

Boundaries

Define for them where they can go and what they should be doing.

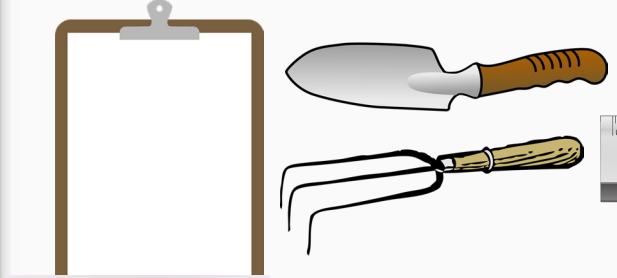
Timing

- Travel - Consider travel time when planning a lesson outside. 10 minutes to prepare, line up, and arrive in the garden depending on the distance.
- Instructions - When outside, review the rules, describe boundaries, describe the challenge and give out materials.
- Investigation time - break into pairs or groups and work on the project. Break a classroom into 3 groups with 2 more teachers/volunteers to lead the other 2 groups. Rotate groups after 20 minutes or as long as attention span. Example: 1 group does the main lesson, 2nd group does weeding, 3rd

The Lawrence Hall of Science; UC Berkley “Taking FOSS Outdoors”

Set Up Your Garden

- Some items to stock in your garden
- Create a donation list for parents
- Apply for grants now









Images: pixabay.com

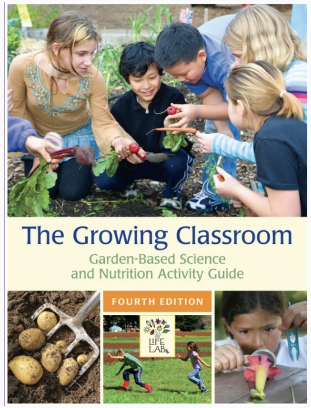


Image: Kidsgardening.org

photo: Leah Taylor

Managing and Effective Outdoor Classroom

- Cooperative learning, small groups, rotate responsibilities
- Provide shade
- Use clipboards with pencils attached
- Train students on using tools
- Observe/connect with veteran garden instructors and Master Gardeners

- Recruit volunteers
- Label beds, plants, etc.
- Share prep duties
- Coordinate schedules

Garden Care: Matching Garden Chores to Grades

- **K** - Trash/ leaves pickup; sweep or rake, water, find bugs; deadhead, harvest, sow, sort
- **First Grade** - all of the above AND weed abatement (teach which weeds they should remove)
- **Second Grade** - all of K and 1 with expanded weed/pest knowledge and abatement, composting, planting starts
- **Third Grade** - expanded use of hand tools
- **Fourth Grade** - using long-handled tools and compost care
- **Fifth Grade** - Garden Ambassadors to teach younger students how to garden

Outdoor Classroom Management

- Utilize small groups: optimally 3 groups of 10 students
- Recruit 2 additional volunteers to run a total of 3 stations
  - Volunteers absent? Use older students as mentors/buddies
  - Or fewer stations
- Spend 20 minutes on each station
- Use a bell to signal rotation

Three Stations

1. **Garden lesson**
2. **Garden Care**
   weeding, cleaning, trimming, dead-heading, planting, watering
3. **Tasting station**

School Garden Planner

August or Summer - before school starts		
Planning	***week***	***Lessons: None***
Plan your curriculum and get seeds from MG		
Think about garden needs, make a list of supplies needed		
Host a volunteer garden work party to clean up garden		
Line up garden volunteers		
Apply for garden grants to secure funding		

September		Tastes: tomatoes, figs, basil, passionfruit
Planning	***week***	***Lessons: 4 garden visits***
Finish garden clean up	1	Set garden rules, have a garden tour, scavenger hunt, tools intro (Tools and Us pg87)
Amend soil - contact MG to get suggestions/recipe	2	Seed germination video (in classroom), Garden Care and So What? Sow Seeds! p 168
Leave one bed unamended to support Compost lesson	3	What plants need discussion and/or Photosynthsis_MG lesson
Planting seeds: kale, lettuce, broccoli, chard & sugar snap peas, beets	4	Water We Doing? p 176
Harvest garden seeds from spent plants		

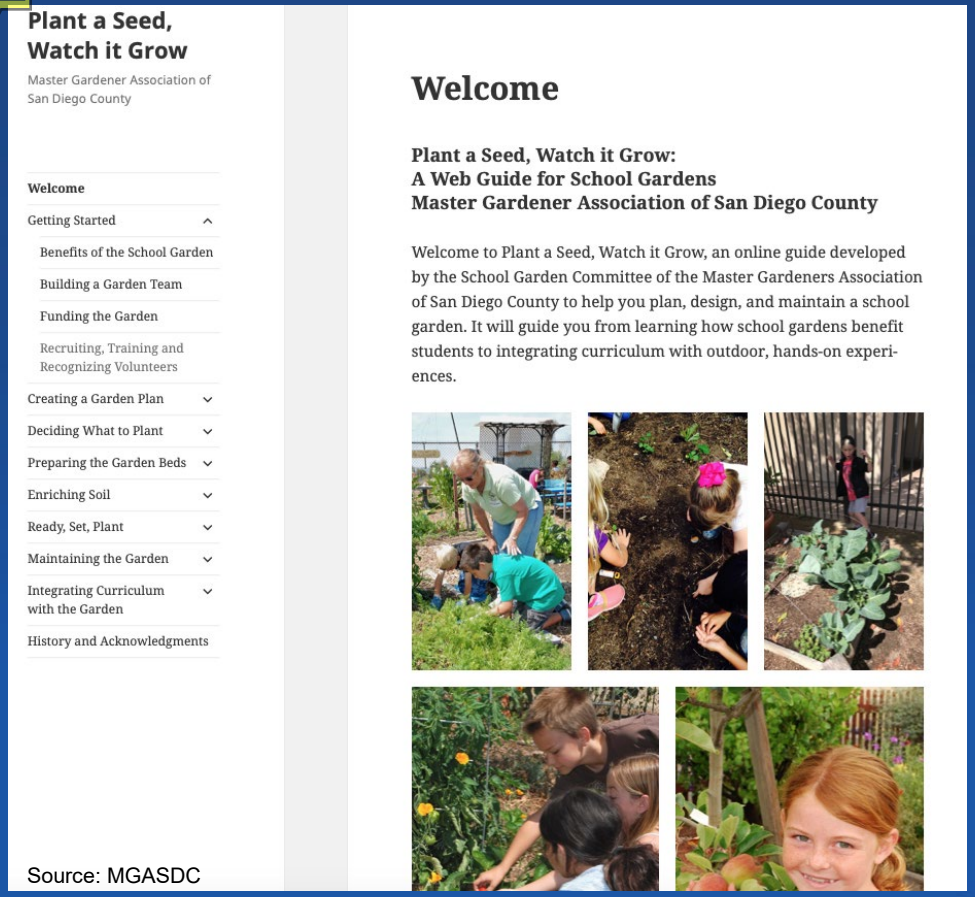
October		Tastes: apples, grapes, cooked pumpkin
Planning	***week***	***Lessons: 4-5 garden visits***
Grants are closing - apply!	1	What Good is Compost? p 96
Worm introduction: care of worms and harvesting their castings	2	The Great and Powerful Worm
Plant starts of seeds planted last month	3	Butterflies - discuss if present, The Butterfly Flutter By, p 257
Collect seeds from spent summer crops for future planting or seed lessons	4	Follow up: What Plants Need Lesson; Make garden signs, store harvested seeds in paper envelopes
	5	Pumpkin activities

November		astes: persimmons, pomegranates, green beans
Planning	***week***	***Lessons: 3-4 garden visits***
Insect inspections (aphids)	1	How to check for insects demo
get radish seeds and planting flats	2	Changing seasons discussion Collectors Corner p 195; Set table; Leaf rubbing
Feed worms	3	Radishing Radish Party p295
	4	Harvest activities

Source: MGASDC

Month by month guide of how to garden with your students

Details garden activities and lessons tailored to your San Diego school garden



Source: MGASDC

Online School Garden Guide

Plant a Seed, Watch it Grow

https://MasterGardenerSD.org/Schools/Plant-A-Seed/Contents

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Practice, Practice, Practice

Expect early garden visits to be bumpy

Outdoor classrooms need experience to get right

With time kids will understand the behavior expected in your outdoor classroom

photo: Meredith French, MGASDC

Curriculum Resources

Search these sites for additional lessons/ideas

- **Life Lab** -see For Educators section
- **Whole Kids Foundation** - Garden Lesson Plans
- **American Heart Association** - see Resources in Garden Community pages
- **Community GroundWorks** - Wisconsin School Garden Network
- **Center for EcoLiteracy** - Big Ideas Food, Culture, Health, Environment grades K-12
- **San Diego Children and Nature** - local lessons with our environment in mind
- **Slow Food USA** - School Garden Curriculum pack
- **Environmental Educators Leaders Network** - Local school garden network

Let your Master Gardener know what you'll study - they'll help provide lessons and ideas

Resources: Access Today's Presentation and Review Even More Free Lessons and Activities!

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SCHOOL GARDENS
Grant information, request a consultant, educator resources & more

Video lessons, workshops, curricula, gardening books, guides to plan, design, maintain

UC Master Gardeners
of San Diego County
"Plant a Seed, Watch it Grow"

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Even MORE Free Resources…

Kidsgardening.org

UC MG YouTube Video Resources

Need Help for a School Garden?

https://www.MasterGardenerSD.org

Click on the School Gardens section and ‘Request a Garden Consultant’

Funding Your School Garden

5 FUNDRAISING

- **What are your gardening needs?**
  - Prioritize what you need/want
  - Itemize and cost them out
- **Where are the resources?**
  - Cash
  - Supplies
  - Volunteers
- **How do I get them?**

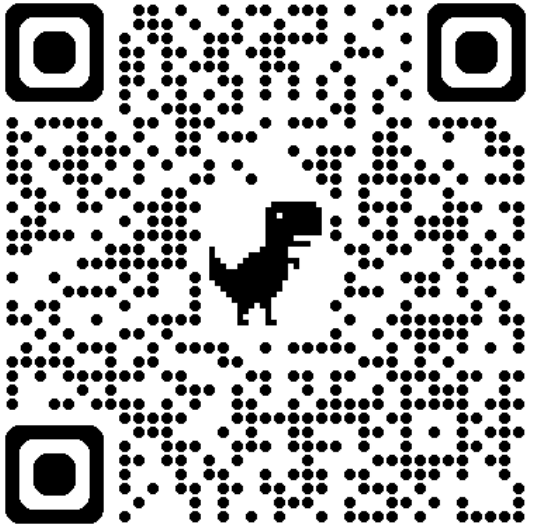
First Step: Create Your Garden Budget

Planning your Garden Budget	Cost	Comments
Initial Garden Purchases		
Hose	$ 25	
Watering cans	$ 10	will need a few of these
Shovels, hoe, rake, pickaxe	$ 100	5 tools at the cost of $20 each
Broom, dustpan	$ 15	
Handheld trowels, digging fork, scoop	$ 160	$8 for 20 tools
Irrigation timer, battery operated	$ 35	
Irrigation system	$ 100	variable cost depends on system
The Growing Classroom curriculum book	$ 40	
Soil	$ 200	cost per 10X4 ft bed
Soil amendment	$ 60	compost and worm castings
Fertilizer	$ 20	
Seeds	$ 20	
Neem/hort oil or soap	$ 10	
Initial Garden Purchases	**$ 795**	
2nd tier needs		
Garden shed	$300-1500	
Compost bins	$48-130	homemade or subsidized through city/county
Wheelbarrel or cart	$ 80	
Storage shelves	$ 85	
Seasonal Needs - twice annually		cost per 10X4 ft bed
Soil amendment	$ 40	compost, worm castings, manure
Fertilizer	$ 20	
Seeds	$ 20	
Plants	$ 50	
	$ 130	
Nice to Haves		
potting bench	$ 300	
outdoor sink	$ 100	

Show Me the Money!!

Potential $$ Sources

- Parent Teacher organizations
- School Fundraisers
- School Garden Associations
- Community Non-Profits
- Master Gardeners (via our consultant to your school garden)



Kids Gardening External Funding Opportunities & Application Support

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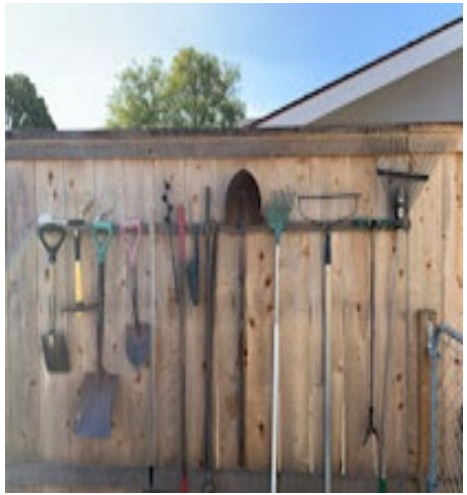
Tips for Getting Funding

- Start a list of your garden program's possible funding sources–make notes!
  - Probably need multiple sources to get started
- Scour the internet for information about the funding source *and its mission*–how does your school garden fit into that mission?
- Who to contact?: face-to-face, email, text or phone
  - Attend a meeting to meet and greet?

Follow up with Funding

- What is their process to apply for grants?
  - Form on website?
- Hone your writing skills: anticipate their “W” questions (what, where, who, when, why)
- Attach images: sketch, site photos to display your vision



Credit: MGASDC

Cultivate That Funding Source!

- Keep detailed records of purchases
  - Don’t combine with personal items
- Follow up with more photos of project
  - Before, in-process, finished
  - No photos of minors w/out parent consent
- Invite them to visit!

6 IMPROVING & ACCOMMODATING

- Expanding your operation
- Seed starting suggestions
- Complying with the ADA

Adding Structures to Your Garden?

- Composting
- Greenhouse
- Seating, tables, shade
- Seed library
- Seed starting area
- Specialty garden
- Square foot garden
- Tool storage

Do the right thing by accommodating disabilities with any improvements you make

Expanding Your Program: Planting from Seeds

Advantages:

- cost
- selection
- health
- avoid root shock
- storage potential

Disadvantages:

- space
- longer to grow
- supplies/ equipment
- protect seedlings

Growing Timeline: To Serve Produce in Cafeteria

Most produce needs 1-4 mos. to grow in school garden

Quickest to grow: radishes can be grown in 30 days!

Typically successful in cool season: lettuce, swiss chard, broccoli, beets, carrots, kale, peas, kohlrabi, bunching onions, celery, strawberry, tangerines

Typically successful in warm season: cherry tomatoes, zucchini, beans, cucumber, apples

Credit:Joelle Kohn

Communicate with your school garden what they need most in your cafeteria!

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Seed Starting Summary

Soil temperature important

Seeds *cannot* dry out

Seeds are alive: don't store in a hot shed or car

Tricks: pour boiling water on parsley and carrot seeds to aid germination
Soak pea seeds a couple hours before sowing

Growing from Seed

Start in trays

When temperature too cold, seeds are few or expensive or you don't want to lose them


Photo: Jen Theodore,Unsplash

- Use moist "seed-starting" soil mix
- Depth matters. Plant seeds at 2-4x the depth of the seed width
- Provide a warm, bright space to germinate
- Cover with perlite to avoid damping off
- Keep moist but not wet
  - Mist in beginning but bottom water after germination
- Soaking, heat mat and/or dome aids germination
  - Remove from heat and dome after germination
- Liquid fertilize when second set of leaves appears
- Thin: Give them space as they grow
- Harden off for a few days
- Transplant on a cool evening

Growing from Seed During the *Cool* Season

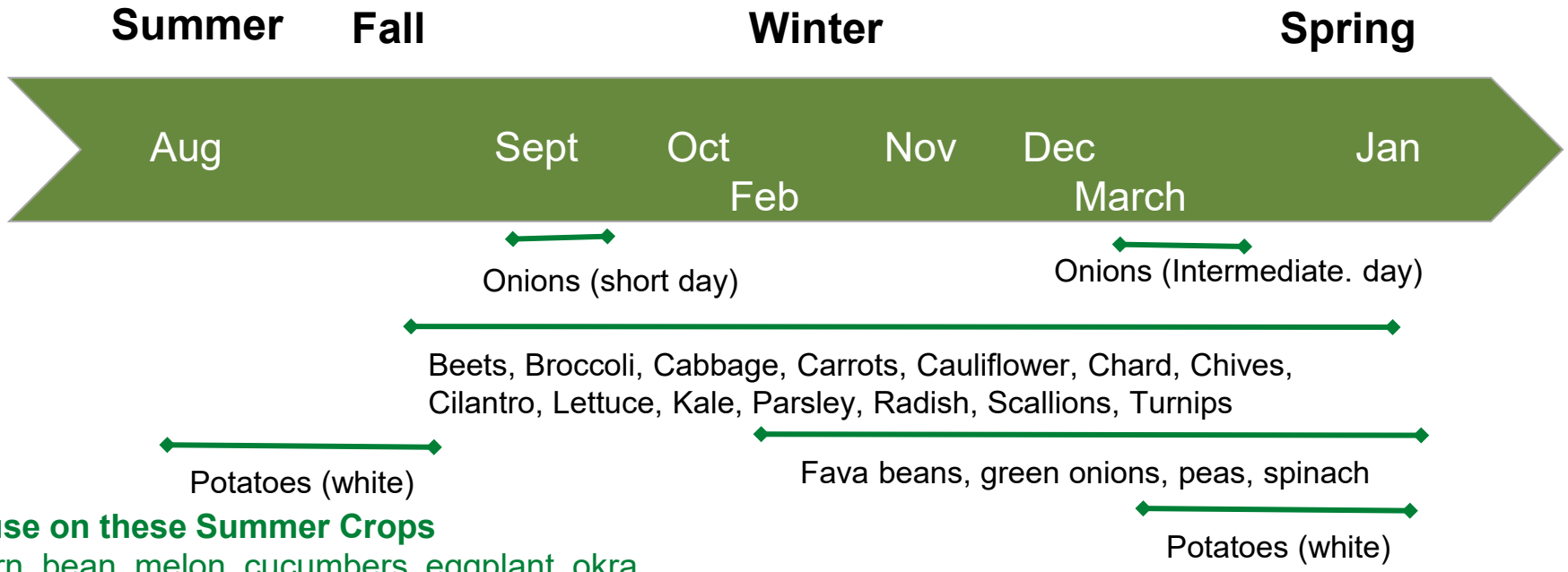
Start in the beds

Beets, carrots, radish

- Depth matters. Plant seeds at 2-4x the depth of the seed width
- Cover with burlap or straw to aid germination/ protect from heavy rain
- Keep moist–not wet (adjust for rainfall)
- Use Sluggo Plus to abate sowbugs, pillbugs
- Liquid fertilize when second set of leaves appears
- Thinning: Give them space as they grow

Patience! Most seeds germinate within 10-14 days but some take 21 days.

What Seeds to Plant During Cool Season



Pause on these Summer Crops

Corn, bean, melon, cucumbers, eggplant, okra, peppers, squash, tomato, sweet potato

More Info: Our website Resources/Vegetable Planting Guide

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Growing from Seed During the *Warm* Season

Start in the beds

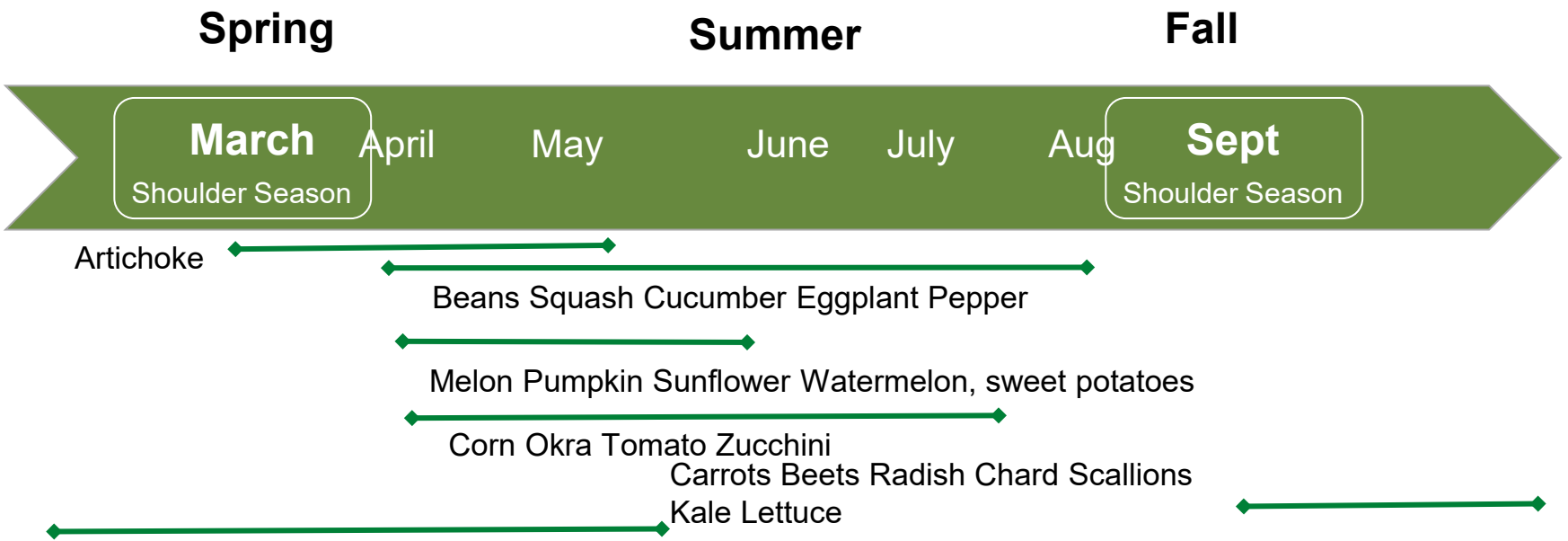
Corn, melon, squash, beans, beets, carrots, radish, cucumbers

Photo credit Heather Holland

- Depth matters. Plant seeds at 2-4x the depth of the seed width
- Cover with burlap or straw to aid germination and slow evaporation
- Keep soil moist–not wet
- Use Sluggo Plus to abate sowbugs, pillbugs
- Liquid fertilize when second set of leaves appears
- Thinning: Give them space as they grow

Patience! Most seeds germinate within 10-14 days but some take 21 days

What Seeds to Plant During Warm Season



Pause on these Winter Crops

Broccoli Sprouts Cabbage Chives Collards Celery Endive Fava Kohlrabi Leeks Onions Parsley Parsnips Peas Potatoes Spinach Turnips

More Info: Our website Resources/Vegetable Planting Guide

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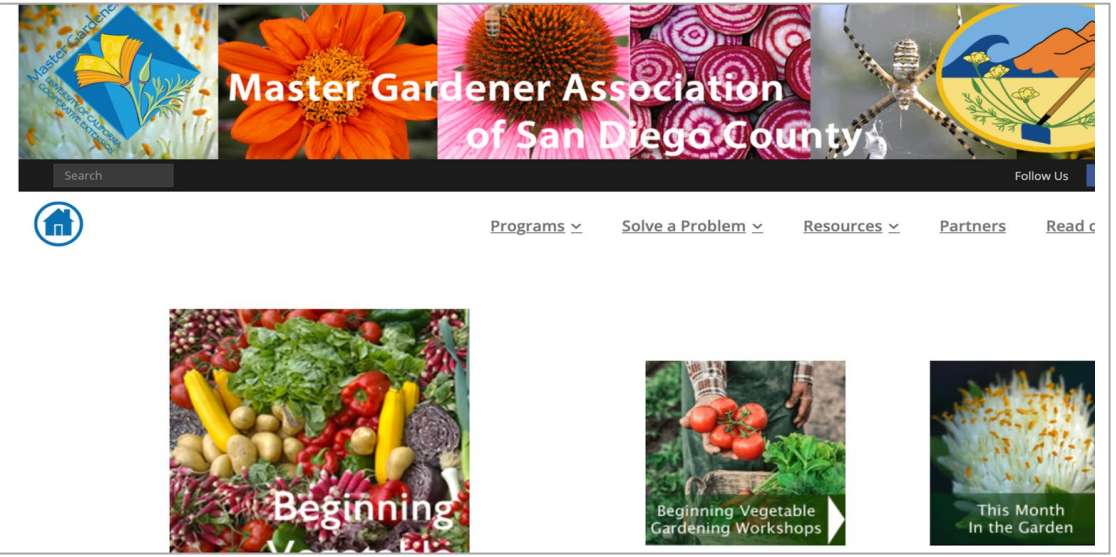
Watch Your Plants Grow

- Inspect & water seeds 2x daily if not on automatic irrigation
- Remove burlap when seeds sprout/ mulch with straw
- As plants grow bigger, water deeper and less often, when top 1” is dry
- Vines need supports (tomatoes, cucumbers, squash, beans, peas, melons)
- Harvest often

For Further Advice and Instruction



Hotline Help: (858) 822-6910 or
help@mastergardenersd.org

MG School Gardens

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Make Your Garden Accessible

Implement the

Principles of

Friendly, Inclusive

Gardening


Designing
Friendly
Inclusive
Garden Spaces.

Bed Specifics

Building a Raised Bed

Why raised beds?

- Drainage
- Irrigation
- Portability
- Pest Control
- Accessibility
- Avoids soil compaction
- Ownership of bed defined

Accessibility – Raised Beds

- Optimum bed should be 24” inches high.


Photo:Stephen Cantu

- Beds should be narrow. 24” from the path edge to the center is ideal.


Photo: noordinaryhomestead.com

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Accessibility – Raised Beds

- Length of the beds may be any convenient size.
- Pathways should be 5’ wide

Edge Materials

Photo: Leta Bender

Do Not use
Railroad Ties


Photo: Stephen Cantú

Raised Beds with Stone Sides

There Are Many Possibilities


Photo:davewilsonnursery


Photo: Stephen Cantu

Enclosed Raised Beds


Photo: Silver Springs Community


Photo: MGASDC at Torrey Hills

Some Shape Ideas

Alternatives

Galvanized Oval Stock Tank

2 ft. W x
1 ft. H x
4 ft. L

. . . . . .

40 gallon capacity

Image: Tractor Supply Co

Possible Path Materials

- Mulch or bark
- Straw

- DG (decomposed granite - without pea gravel is ideal for people's mobility)

Tools and Equipment

Amazon Photo

Pinterest Photo

Pinterest Photo

Stephen Cantu Photo

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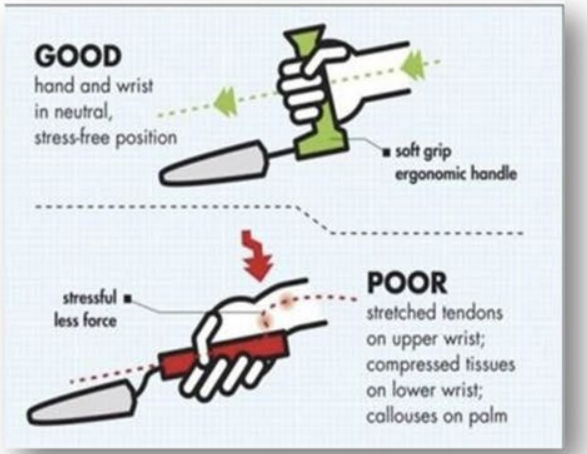
Ergonomics

gardeners.com

Amazon Photo

Amazon Photo



The Green Head

Amazon Photo

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The Right Tool for the job

Safety first

Beware of your surroundings

Homemade Tools.net

Pinterest Photo

Labor-Saving Devices

Use a wheeled trolley to minimize back-and-forth trips.

Store your tools in easy reach

Photo: Kylee Baumle

Gardeners Supply

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FINALE…… CARPE DIEM!!!

QUESTIONS
AND DISCUSSION!!

Image: Canva

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