

Develop a Support Network

WORKSHEET

Use this worksheet to compile the contact information for potential members of your school food garden support network, including possible planning and garden committee members.

Key administrators to contact (i.e., principal, executive director, vice principal, school board members, and school district staff):

Title	Name	Email	Phone Number

Educators who may be interested in the garden program:

Name	Title/Grade	Email	Phone Number

Support Staff who may be interested in the garden (i.e., cafeteria staff, librarian, nurse, custodians)

Name	Title	Email	Phone Number



Caregivers who may be interested in helping with the garden:

Name	Child's Name & Grade	Email	Phone Number

Potential Community Volunteers (i.e., neighbors, Master Gardeners, garden clubs, local nurseries or landscape company employees, farmers, health care workers):

Name	Connection to the Garden	Email	Phone Number

Students interested in helping with the garden:

Name	Grade	Contact Information

Local media to contact to spread the word about the garden:

Name	Media Outlet	Email	Phone Number

Develop Garden Goals

WORKSHEET

Brainstorm with your garden planning committee and support network to answer the following questions to help you define your garden goals:

Who will participate in the garden?

What do we hope participants will learn through the garden experience?

How will the garden fit into our existing activities and/or curriculum?

Where can we plant the garden?

When will we garden?

How much time will each participant realistically be able to spend in the garden?

How much money do we think we can potentially raise for installation? For garden maintenance?



Identify Needs

WORKSHEET

Here is a checklist of tools and resources commonly needed for a sustainable youth garden program:

TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT			
Item Description	Quantity Needed	Cost	Donated/Purchased
Hand trowels			
3-pronged hand cultivators			
Shovel			
Hoe			
Rake			
Water hose			
Watering can			
Buckets			
String and tape measure			
Garden stakes and row markers			
Garden cart or wheelbarrow			

MATERIALS			
Item Description	Quantity Needed	Cost	Donated/Purchased
Soil			
Compost			
Mulch			
Fertilizer			

PLANTS				
Plant Name	Seed or Transplant	Quantity Needed	Cost	Donated/Purchased

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT MATERIALS				
Book or Website Name	Author	Website Link	Cost	Downloaded/Donated/Purchased



Sample Garden Program Volunteer Job Description

WORKSHEET

Title:

Duties:

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Location:

Time Required:

Schedule:

Skills Needed:

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Training Available:

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Reports to:

School Volunteer Policy:



Sample Garden Program Volunteer Job Description

Title: Work Day Volunteer

Duties:

- Provide general maintenance of garden including weeding, watering, and planting.
- Help with special projects.

Location: School garden

Time Required: 3 hours once a month

Schedule: The second Saturday of the month March-October

Skills Needed:

- Willingness to get dirty

Training Available:

- Garden volunteer orientation

Reports to: Garden Coordinator

School Volunteer Policy: All volunteers must complete background checks.



Planting Day Event Checklist

WORKSHEET

Date Selected:

Time:

Event Coordinators:

Special invitations sent to:

Media contacted:

Volunteers attending:

Agenda for the event:

Supplies needed:

Snacks and drinks:



Sample Year-End Report Form and Surveys

SAMPLE GARDEN YEAR-END REPORT FORM

Name of Garden Coordinator:

Contact information for Garden Coordinator:

Number of students who participated in the program:

How many hours per week on average was each student involved in gardening activities:

Estimated number of students who benefited indirectly from the garden program:

Planting date (s):

Plant list:

Volunteers who participated in the garden program this year:

Grants and awards received for the garden program this year:

Donations received for the garden program this year:



How much money was spent on the garden program this year?

Obstacles to the garden program this year:

Successes of the garden program this year:

Suggestions for future gardens and programming:



Sample Year-End Report Form and Surveys

SAMPLE GARDEN YEAR-END SURVEY FOR STUDENT GARDENERS

List 3 things you learned about growing a garden this year:

1.

2.

3.

Did you eat any of the fruits and vegetables from the garden?

After helping with the garden, do you:

☐ like fruits and vegetables more

☐ like fruits and vegetables the same

☐ not like fruits and vegetables

After helping with the garden do you think you:

☐ eat more fruits and vegetables

☐ eat the same number of fruits and vegetables

☐ eat fewer fruits and vegetables

My favorite thing about our garden is:

My favorite garden activity from this year was:

Please list any ideas you have for next year's garden:



Sample Year-End Report Form and Surveys

SAMPLE GARDEN YEAR-END SURVEY FOR EDUCATORS AND VOLUNTEERS

1. What subjects did you teach through the garden program:

- ☐ Science
- ☐ English
- ☐ Math
- ☐ History
- ☐ Social Studies
- ☐ Health and Nutrition
- ☐ Art
- ☐ Physical Education
- ☐ Technology
- ☐ Other, list:

2. What curriculum books or activity guides did you use?

3. Did you connect your garden lessons to your required curriculum?

4. What non-academic topics were taught through the garden program:

- ☐ Community Service
- ☐ Leadership Training
- ☐ Character Development
- ☐ Intra/Interpersonal Relations
- ☐ Team Building
- ☐ Intergenerational Connections/Mentor Programs
- ☐ Other, list:

5. What percentage of your time in the garden was spent on the following types of instructional techniques:

- ☐ % Lecture
- ☐ % Independent Learning
- ☐ % Student-led Investigations/Hands-on Activities
- ☐ % Educator-led Investigations/Hands-on Activities
- ☐ % Collaborative Project Work



6. Did you witness improvements in any of the following characteristics:

- ☐ Improvements in scholastic achievement
- ☐ Improvements in attitude towards school
- ☐ Improvements in environmental attitudes
- ☐ Improvements in nutritional attitudes
- ☐ Improvements in social skills
- ☐ Improvements in self-confidence
- ☐ Improvements in community spirit
- ☐ Improvements in leadership skills
- ☐ Improvements in volunteerism
- ☐ Improvement in motor skills
- ☐ Other, list:

7. What evidence do you have of garden program effectiveness:

- ☐ Positive comments from students
- ☐ Positive comments from family members
- ☐ Positive comments from administrators
- ☐ Positive comments from volunteers or community members
- ☐ Positive survey results
- ☐ Improvement in test scores
- ☐ Decrease in disciplinary actions
- ☐ Improvement in attendance rates
- ☐ Other, list:

8. Did your students have the chance to eat fruits or vegetables from the garden?

9. Did you notice any changes in their attitudes toward fruits and vegetables?

- ☐ Significant Positive Change
- ☐ Moderate Positive Change
- ☐ No Change
- ☐ Moderate Negative Change
- ☐ Significant Negative Change



10. Did you notice any changes in their consumption of fruits and vegetables

- ☐ High increase
- ☐ Moderate increase
- ☐ Low increase
- ☐ No change
- ☐ Decrease

11. Please share any additional thoughts you have about the impact of the garden program.
Include student quotes or stories if available.

12. What parts of the garden program do you want to see continued for next year?

13. Please list any suggestions or ideas for improvement you have for next garden season:

