

SCHOOL GARDEN CURRICULA AND LESSON PLAN OPTIONS

This document details a number of the different school gardening lesson plans and curriculum books that are available for use with a school garden. Some of the materials are free and others have a cost associated with them. The materials are divided by grade level, although there can be a lot of crossover in some of the materials.

K-State Research & Extension does not endorse any of the following curricula, lesson plans or the content contained therein. The materials are provided to give you a wide range of options for your consideration so that you can determine what will work best in your context.

Early Childhood and Preschool

Cultivating Joy and Wonder: educating for Sustainability in Early Childhood Through Nature, Food, and Community

https://store.shelburnefarms.org/product/cultivatingjoy/education_resources

Cost: \$45.00

Farm to Childcare Curriculum Package

<https://www.iatp.org/documents/farm-to-childcare-curriculum-package>

Cost: Free

Garden Adventures

<https://www.gardeners.com/buy/garden-adventures/8593680.html>

Cost: \$19.95

Grow It, Try It, Like It

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/grow-it>

Cost: Free

Sowing the Seeds of Wonder – Discovering the Garden in Early Childhood Education

<http://www.lifelab.org/store/curriculum/#ssw>

Cost: \$16.95

Sow it. Grow it. Eat it. Know it. Primary Lessons for Classroom & Garden

<http://www.growinggardeners.net/wp-content/uploads/2011/03/Primary-Lessons-for-Edible-Garden.pdf>

Cost: Free

The Garden Classroom: Hands-On Activities in Math, Science, Literacy & Art

<https://www.amazon.com/Garden-Classroom-Hands-Activities-Literacy/dp/1611801648>

Cost: \$21.95

Elementary

4-H Gardening Curriculum Set & Bingo Bundle

<https://shop4-h.org/products/2016-gardening-curriculum-bingo-bundle>

Cost: \$52.95

Afterschool Agriculture: Acres of Adventure

<https://shop4-h.org/products/afterschool-agriculture-acres-of-adventure-1>

Cost: \$9.95

Agriculture in the Classroom – Kansas Lessons

<https://ksagclassroom.org/education-center/lesson-plans/>

Cost: Free

Agriculture in the Classroom National Curriculum Matrix

<https://www.agclassroom.org/matrix/>

Cost: Free

The Bee Cause 6 Week Bee Unit

<https://www.thebeecause.org/6-week-bee-unit/>

Cost: Free

Bee Smart School Garden Kit

<https://www.pollinator.org/bee-smart>

Cost: \$85-175

Books in Bloom: Discovering the plant biology in great children’s literature

<https://www.gardeners.com/buy/books-in-bloom/8593675.html>

Cost: \$29.95

Botany on Your Plate

<https://www.gardeners.com/buy/botany-on-your-plate-book/8593676.html>

Cost: \$21.95

Children’s Garden Book List

<https://www.growpittsburgh.org/garden-and-farm-resources/school-gardens-2/childrens-garden-book-list/>

Cost: List is free, books are not

Classroom Victory Garden Project

<http://classroomvictorygarden.org/>

Cost: Free

Clean: Slow Food USA’s School Garden Curriculum

<https://slowfoodusa.org/wp-content/uploads/Slow-Food-USA-Clean-Curriculum-Low-Res.pdf>

Cost: Free

Cornell Garden-Based Learning Activities

<http://gardening.cals.cornell.edu/lessons/activities/>

Cost: Free

Cultivating Learning with School Gardens

<https://agricorps.org/school-garden-curriculum/english/>

Cost: Free

Dig Art! Cultivating Creativity in the Garden

<http://gardening.cals.cornell.edu/lessons/curricula/dig-art-cultivating-creativity-in-the-garden/>

Cost: Free

Dig In! Standards-Based Nutrition Education from the Ground Up

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/dig-standards-based-nutrition-education-ground>

Cost: Free

Edible Schoolyard NYC

<https://www.edibleschoolyardnyc.org/educators/curriculum/>

Cost: Free

The Garden Classroom: Hands-On Activities in Math, Science, Literacy & Art

<https://www.amazon.com/Garden-Classroom-Hands-Activities-Literacy/dp/1611801648>

Cost: \$21.95

Gardening Lab for Kids: 52 Fun Experiments to Learn, Grow, Harvest, Make, Play, and Enjoy Your Garden

<https://www.amazon.com/Gardening-Lab-Kids-Experiments-Hands/dp/1592539041>

Cost: \$16.90

The Great Garden Detective Adventure

<https://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/great-garden-detective-adventure-standards-based-gardening-nutrition-curriculum-grades-3-and-4>

Cost: Free

Green Thumb Challenge

<http://www.greeneducationfoundation.org/greenthumbchallengesub/curriculum-and-activities/curriculum.html>

Cost: Free

Grow Pittsburgh Garden Lesson Plans

<https://www.growpittsburgh.org/garden-and-farm-resources/school-gardens-2/lesson-plans/>

Cost: Free

The Growing Classroom

<https://lifelab.z2systems.com/np/clients/lifelab/product.jsp?product=1&>

Cost: \$39.95

Growing Gardens: Youth Grow Lesson Plans

<https://www.growing-gardens.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/Growing-Gardens-Youth-Grow-Lesson-Plan-Manual-Jan-2016.pdf>

Cost: Free

Growing Good Kids Book Award List

<https://jmgkids.us/bookawards/>

Cost: List is free, books are not

Growing in the Garden: Local Foods and Healthy Living Curriculum

<https://store.extension.iastate.edu/Product/Growing-in-the-Garden-Local-Foods-and-Healthy-Living-Curriculum>

Cost: \$35.00

Growing Minds, Farm to School

<https://growing-minds.org/garden-lesson-plans/>

Cost: Free

Junior Master Gardener Level 1 – Grades 3-5

<https://www.agrilifebookstore.org/JMG-Teacher-Leader-Guide-p/jmg-006.htm>

Cost: \$56.00

Junior Master Gardener Learn, Grow, Eat, Go!

<https://www.agrilifebookstore.org/Learn-Grow-Eat-and-Go-p/jmg-001.htm>

Cost: \$52.00

Junior Master Gardener Literature in the Garden

<https://www.agrilifebookstore.org/JMG-Literature-in-the-Garden-p/jmg-010.htm>

Cost: \$48.00

Junior Master Gardener Wildlife Gardener

<https://www.agrilifebookstore.org/JMG-Wildlife-Gardener-p/jmg-009.htm>

Cost: \$48.00

Kansas School Gardens Activities

<http://www.kansasgreenschools.org/kansas-school-gardens-activities>

Cost: Free

KC Schoolyard Garden Lesson Plans

<https://kccg.org/schoolyard-garden-lesson-plans/>

Cost: Free

Kids Gardening: Garden Lesson Plans

<https://kidsgardening.org/lesson-plans/>

Cost: Free

Life Lab Garden Lessons & Downloads

<https://lifelab.org/for-educators/schoolgardens/#lessons>

Cost: Free

LiFE: Growing Food

<https://www.gardeners.com/buy/growing-food/8593681.html>

Cost: \$32.95

LiFE: Farm to Table and Beyond

<https://www.gardeners.com/buy/farm-to-table-beyond/8593679.html>

Cost: \$32.95

Math in the Garden

<https://www.gardeners.com/buy/math-in-the-garden/8593685.html>

Cost: \$29.95

My First Garden from Rodale Institute

<https://rodaleinstitute.org/education/school-gardening-curriculum/>

Cost: Free

Nature Conservancy: Elementary Lesson Plans

<https://www.nature.org/en-us/about-us/who-we-are/how-we-work/youth-engagement/nature-lab/elementary-lesson-plans/>

Cost: Free

Nature's Partners: Pollinators, Plants and You

<https://www.pollinator.org/pollinator.org/assets/generalFiles/curriculum.pdf>

Cost: Free

Pollinator LIVE: A Distance Learning Adventure

<https://pollinatorlive.pwnet.org/index.php>

Cost: Free

Pollinator Partnership Curriculum

<https://www.pollinator.org/pollinator.org/assets/generalFiles/Gardens-Curriculum-2010-one-doc.pdf>

Cost: Free

Project Seasons

https://store.shelburnefarms.org/product/179/education_resources

Cost: \$24.95

The School Garden Curriculum: An Integrated K-8 Guide for Discovering Science, Ecology, and Whole-Systems Thinking

<https://www.theschoolgardencurriculum.com/>

Cost: \$34.99

School Garden and Nutrition Curriculum from Denver Urban Gardens

<https://dug.org/school-garden-curriculum/>

Cost: Free

Seed to Salad

<http://gardening.cals.cornell.edu/lessons/curricula/seed-to-salad/>

Cost: Free

Sow it. Grow it. Eat it. Know it. Elementary Lessons for Classroom & Garden

https://growinggardeners.files.wordpress.com/2010/09/lcng_lower_el.pdf

https://growinggardeners.files.wordpress.com/2010/09/lcng_upper_el.pdf

Cost: Free

University of Georgia School Garden Curriculum

<https://extension.uga.edu/programs-services/school-garden-resources/curriculum.html>

Cost: Free

Whole Kids School Garden Lesson Plans

<https://www.wholekidsfoundation.org/assets/documents/school-garden-lesson-plans.pdf>

Cost: Free

Middle School and High School

4-H Gardening Curriculum Set & Bingo Bundle

<https://shop4-h.org/products/2016-gardening-curriculum-bingo-bundle>

Cost: \$52.95

Agriculture in the Classroom – Kansas Lessons

<https://ksagclassroom.org/education-center/lesson-plans/>

Cost: Free

Agriculture in the Classroom National Curriculum Matrix

<https://www.agclassroom.org/matrix/>

Cost: Free

Cultivating Learning with School Gardens

<https://agricorps.org/school-garden-curriculum/english/>

Cost: Free

Discovering Our Food System

<http://gardening.cals.cornell.edu/lessons/curricula/discovering-our-food-system/>

Cost: Free

Edible Schoolyard NYC

<https://www.edibleschoolyardnyc.org/educators/curriculum/>

Cost: Free

Farm to School Youth Leadership Curriculum

<https://www.iatp.org/documents/farm-to-school-youth-leadership-curriculum-all-lessons-and-worksheets>

Cost: Free

The Food Project: Food System Curriculum

<https://thefoodproject.org/curriculum/food-system/>

Cost: Free

The Food Project: French Fries and the Food System

<https://thefoodproject.org/product/french-fries/>

Cost: \$24.95

The Food Project: Growing Together

<https://thefoodproject.org/product/growing-together/>

Cost: \$24.95

The Food Project: Hunger and Homelessness Curriculum

<https://thefoodproject.org/curriculum/hunger-and-homelessness/>

Cost: Free

The Food Project: Sustainable Agriculture Curriculum

<https://thefoodproject.org/curriculum/sustainable-agriculture/>

Cost: Free

FoodSpan: Teaching the Food System from Farm to Fork

<https://www.foodspan.org/>

Cost: Free

Garden Genetics: Teaching with Edible Plants

<https://my.nsta.org/resource/?id=10.2505/PKEB199XT>

Cost: \$7.83 (e-book)

Green Thumb Challenge

<http://www.greeneducationfoundation.org/greenthumbchallengesub/curriculum-and-activities/curriculum.html>

Cost: Free

Growing in the Garden: Local Foods and Healthy Living Curriculum

<https://store.extension.iastate.edu/Product/Growing-in-the-Garden-Local-Foods-and-Healthy-Living-Curriculum>

Cost: \$35.00

Growing Minds, Farm to School

<http://growing-minds.org/middle-and-high-school-resources/>

Cost: Free

Math in the Garden

<https://www.gardeners.com/buy/math-in-the-garden/8593685.html>

Cost: \$29.95

Junior Master Gardener Level 2 – Operation Thistle Seeds of Despair

<https://www.agrilifebookstore.org/JMG-Level-2-Seeds-of-Despair-p/jmg-008.htm>

Cost: \$48.00

Junior Master Gardener – Operation W.A.T.E.R. Dr. Thistle Goes Underground

<https://www.agrilifebookstore.org/JMG-Level-2-Dr-Thistle-Goes-Underground-p/jmg-011.htm>

Cost: \$48.00

LiFE: Growing Food

<https://www.gardeners.com/buy/growing-food/8593681.html>

Cost: \$32.95

LiFE: Farm to Table and Beyond

<https://www.gardeners.com/buy/farm-to-table-beyond/8593679.html>

Cost: \$32.95

LiFe: Choice, Control and Change

<https://www.gardeners.com/buy/choice-control-change/8593677.html>

Cost: \$32.95

Maize Activity Guide for 5th to 8th Grades

<https://lifelab.z2systems.com/np/clients/lifelab/product.jsp?product=14&>

Cost: \$19.95

Nature’s Partners: Pollinators, Plants and You

<https://www.pollinator.org/pollinator.org/assets/generalFiles/curriculum.pdf>

Cost: Free

Nourish Food + Community: What's the story of your food?

<https://www.nourishlife.org/teach/curriculum/>

https://www.schoolgardens.org/uploads/1/0/8/4/108474255/curriculum-nourish_food_community.pdf

Cost: Free

Pathways Through Horticulture

<https://www.mnla.biz/page/hscurriculum>

Cost: Free

Pollinator LIVE: A Distance Learning Adventure

<https://pollinatorlive.pwnet.org/index.php>

Cost: Free

Pollinator Partnership Curriculum

<https://www.pollinator.org/pollinator.org/assets/generalFiles/Gardens-Curriculum-2010-one-doc.pdf>

Cost: Free

University of Georgia School Garden Curriculum

<https://extension.uga.edu/programs-services/school-garden-resources/curriculum.html>

Cost: Free

Youth Grow: Leadership in the Garden

<http://gardening.cals.cornell.edu/lessons/curricula/youth-grow/>

Cost: Free

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Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service

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Updated November 2020