



Spring Garden Templates

Indoor seed starting or purchased transplants needed.

How to Use the Garden Templates and Coordinating Tables

The templates are divided by growing season. Each template is designed to be a stand-alone garden plan. However, it may be possible to use multiple templates in the same garden space over the course of a year. In a larger garden, several templates could be used each year or even in each season. The templates are not designed to be the only way or even the best way to plant a garden for your specific school. The templates are a guide to get you started with some options for what to plant and when. As you gain experience and confidence from successes, you can adjust and adapt your planting plans as needed.

The layout of the garden templates was designed with several things in mind. Some templates prioritize diversity of plants and others prioritize simplicity. In many cases, the garden layout is not designed to be efficient or high yielding, but rather to allow for effective learning and hands-on activities to be done with various sizes of groups. Some templates are designed for visual interest and inciting wonder in children rather than maximizing the yield.

If your garden is used for middle school or high school age students, planning and designing their own garden layouts can be a critical part of the learning process. These templates could serve as great starting points for students to study plant spacing and planting times, but do consider having them develop their own plans, research different planting options, or develop alternatives to compare results.

Each template tells a little bit about how easy or difficult it would be to implement the garden, as well as what the expected planting and harvesting window would be for the template. Be sure to pay attention to whether a template requires pre-planting indoors or prior to the school year, purchasing plants, or other preparations. The complexity level indicated reflects both the difficulty of managing the planting times and the difficulty of implementing the layout of the garden.

After each template, there are two tables. The first table provides more information about the recommended planting time, how to plant, and short notes are choosing a good variety. The second table gives alternatives to substitute for each plant recommended in the template. This allows for each garden to be adjusted to meet the needs of the school or student group.

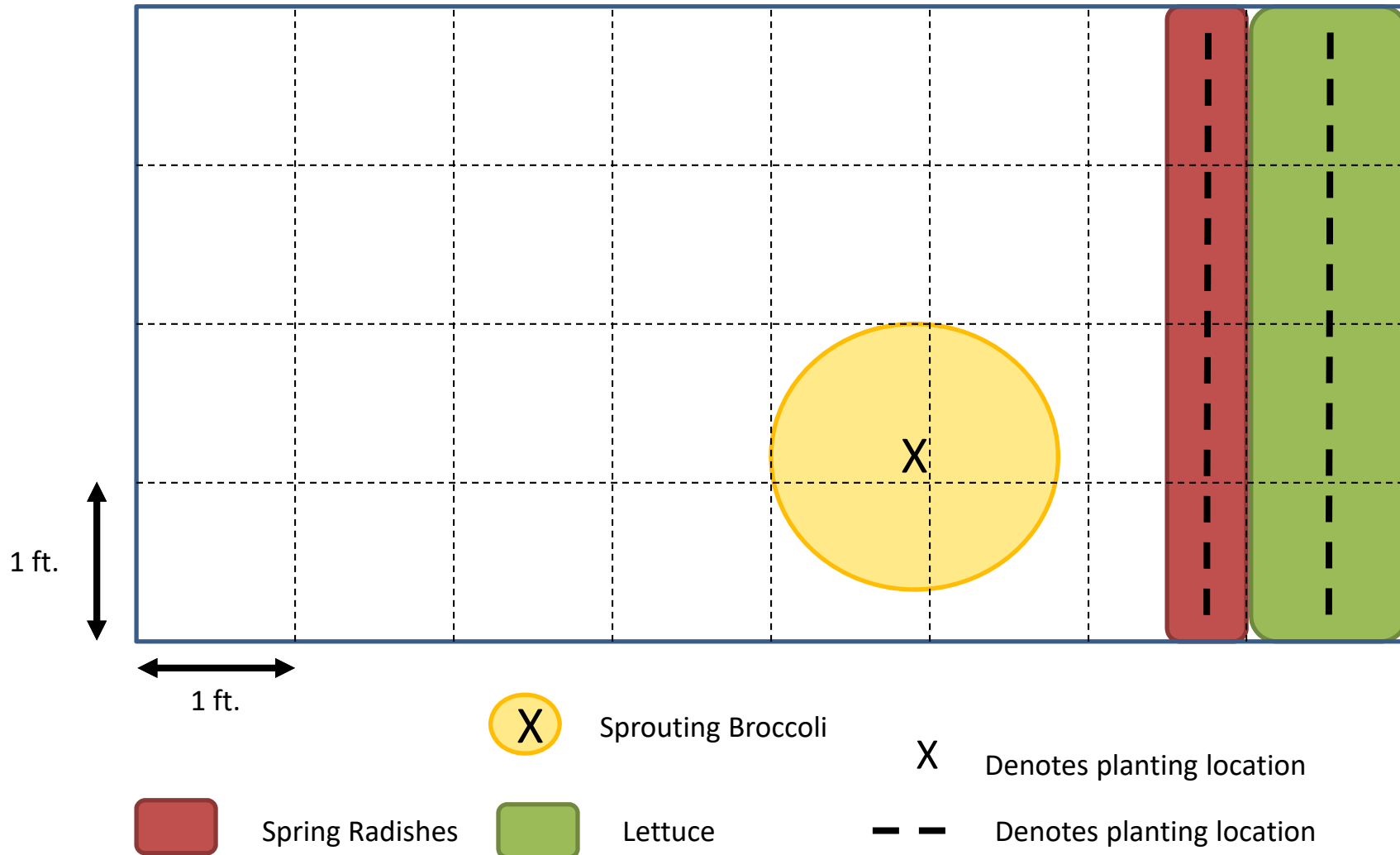
For more information about each recommended plant in the guide, refer to the document, ***Notes on Plant Choices for Kansas School Gardens***. This document will provide more guidance on planting and growing each crop, choosing varieties to grow, things to watch for, and ideas about learning opportunities related to the various plants.

For lesson plans and educational activities, check out ***School Garden Curricula and Lesson Plan Options***.

For tips on starting a garden and related resources, refer to ***Considerations and Resources for School Gardens in Kansas***.

How to Read the Garden Templates

Each template is 4 feet by 8 feet. Each foot is marked by a gridline. A colored block that fills a whole square width is expected to be 1 foot wide, with the planting line denoted in the center of the block – allowing about 6” on either side of the planting location. A colored block that fills half a square is expected to be 6” wide, with planting in the center. These are typically where seeds are planted. A circle or square with an “X” in the center will typically be where a single plant is transplanted. The plant will go on the “X,” with the space of the circle or square the expected mature size of the plant. The key at the bottom shows what plants are planned for each space.



How to Read the Planting Schedule Charts

Each template includes a Planting Schedule chart. This chart lists the ideal window when each type of plant should go into the garden. Bear in mind that every year is different from a weather standpoint, so a planting date that works well one year may not work as well in another year, especially at the extremes.

The planting type – either direct seeding in the garden or transplanting in the garden – is noted. In some cases, there may be special instructions for certain plants.

In the last column are some short variety notes. These notes are specific to the time of year and template, so may change from one chart to another. For more detailed information on variety selection for certain plants, refer to *Notes on Plant Choices for Kansas School Gardens*.

F-1 Planting Schedule and Information

Vegetable	Planting Range	Planting Type	Variety Notes
Lettuce	Mid-August to early September	Seeds directly in garden	Any leaf, romaine, or butterhead type.
Spring Radishes	Mid-August to mid-September	Seeds directly in garden	Any less than 35 days to maturity.

How to Read the Alternative Plants Charts

Each template includes a chart of alternative plants. These are plants that have similar growth habits, spacing needs, and planting times to the plant originally indicated on the garden template. If there is need to replace a particular plant with another option for whatever reason, this chart will help you determine which other plants you could consider.

In some cases, especially in the summer templates, there are few easy alternatives that have close characteristics to the original plant options. Alternatives may not need the exact same type of trellising or have slightly different planting dates. If you are unsure about a replacement plant, ask an experienced gardener for advice. Also refer to *Notes on Plant Choices for Kansas School Gardens* for more insight into certain types of plants.

F-1 Alternative Plants for the Garden Plan

Vegetable	Alternative Plants
Lettuce	spinach, Chinese cabbage, mesclun, mizuna, mustards, arugula, kale, Swiss chard, bok choy
Spring radishes	kohlrabi, salad turnips, purple top turnips, green onions (from sets), pansies (from purchased plants)

Spring Garden – Medium Season with Indoor Seed Starting

- Planted in mid- to late March, with harvest expected in mid- to late May, at the end of the school year.
- Most of the plants should be started from seed indoors in January or February to give a head start on the growing season and allow for maturity of the final plantings by late May.

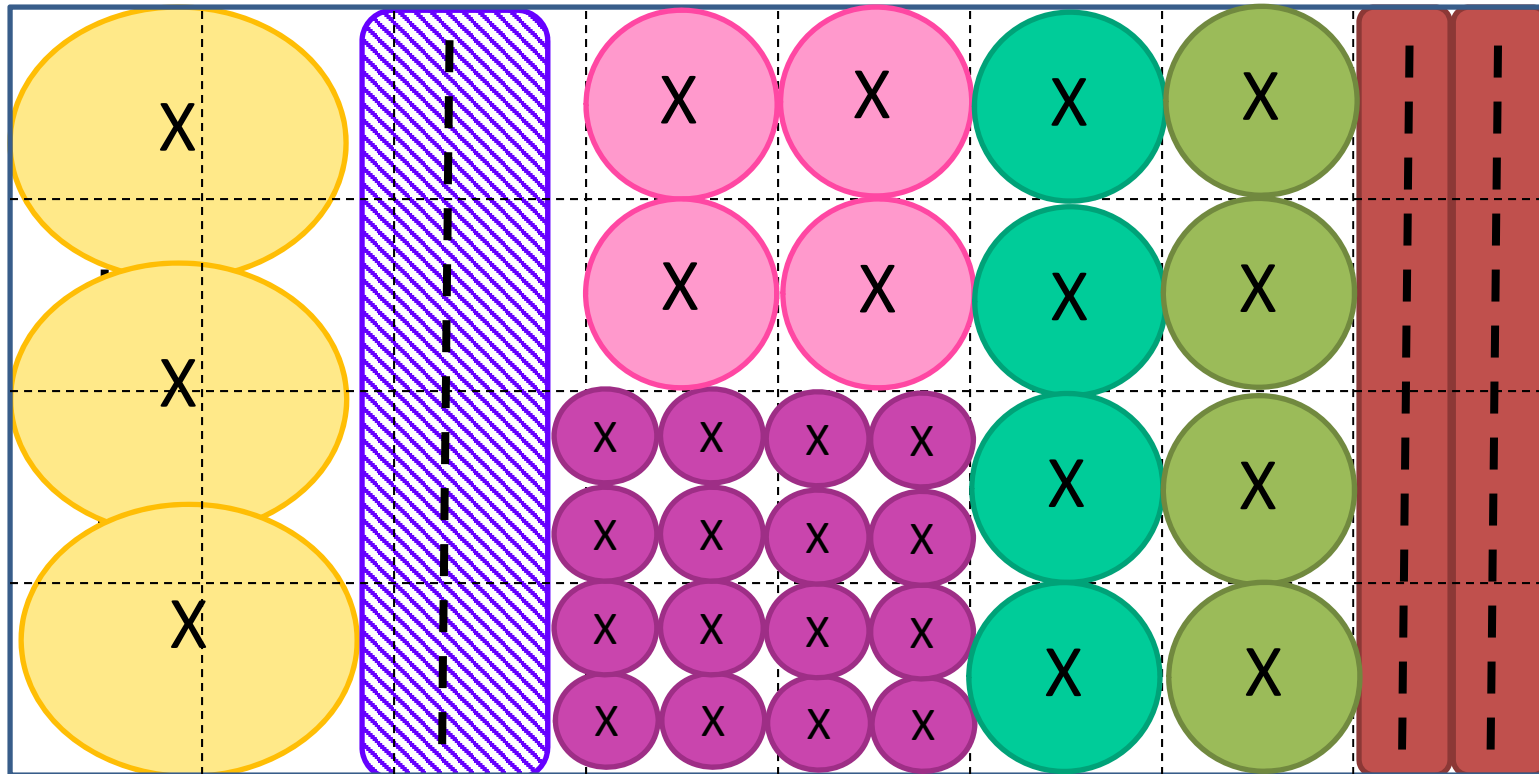
Sp-10










Spring Garden – Medium Season with Indoor Seed Starting

Complex planting plan.

Planted in mid- to late March, with harvest expected in mid- to late May, at the end of the school year.

Most of the plants should be started from seed indoors in January or February to give a head start on the growing season and allow for maturity of the final plantings by late May



-  Peas
-  Sprouting Broccoli
-  Radishes
-  Swiss Chard
-  Lettuce
-  Alpine Strawberries
-  Kohlrabi
-  Denotes planting location
-  Denotes planting location

Sp-10 Planting Schedule and Information

Vegetable	Planting Range	Planting Type	Variety Notes
Lettuce	Seed indoors in mid-February. Transplant outdoors in mid- to late March.	Seeds started indoors, then transplanted out in garden.	Any leaf, romaine, or butterhead type.
Spring Radishes	Mid- to late March.	Seed directly in the garden.	Any variety - less than 35 days to maturity.
Alpine Strawberries	Seed indoors in mid- to late January. Transplant outdoors in mid- to late March.	Seeds started indoors, then transplanted out in garden.	Any variety.
Peas	Late February to late March.	Seed directly in the garden.	Any variety – less than 60 days to maturity preferable. Snow or sugar snap peas may be better choices.
Sprouting Broccoli	Seed indoors in mid-February. Transplant outdoors in mid- to late March.	Seeds started indoors, then transplanted out in garden.	Any variety – less than 55 days to maturity is preferable.
Swiss Chard	Seed indoors in mid-February. Transplant outdoors in mid- to late March.	Seeds started indoors, then transplanted out in garden.	Any variety.
Kohlrabi	Seed indoors in mid-February. Transplant outdoors in mid- to late March.	Seeds started indoors, then transplanted out in garden.	Any variety.

Sp-10 Alternative Plants for the Garden Plan

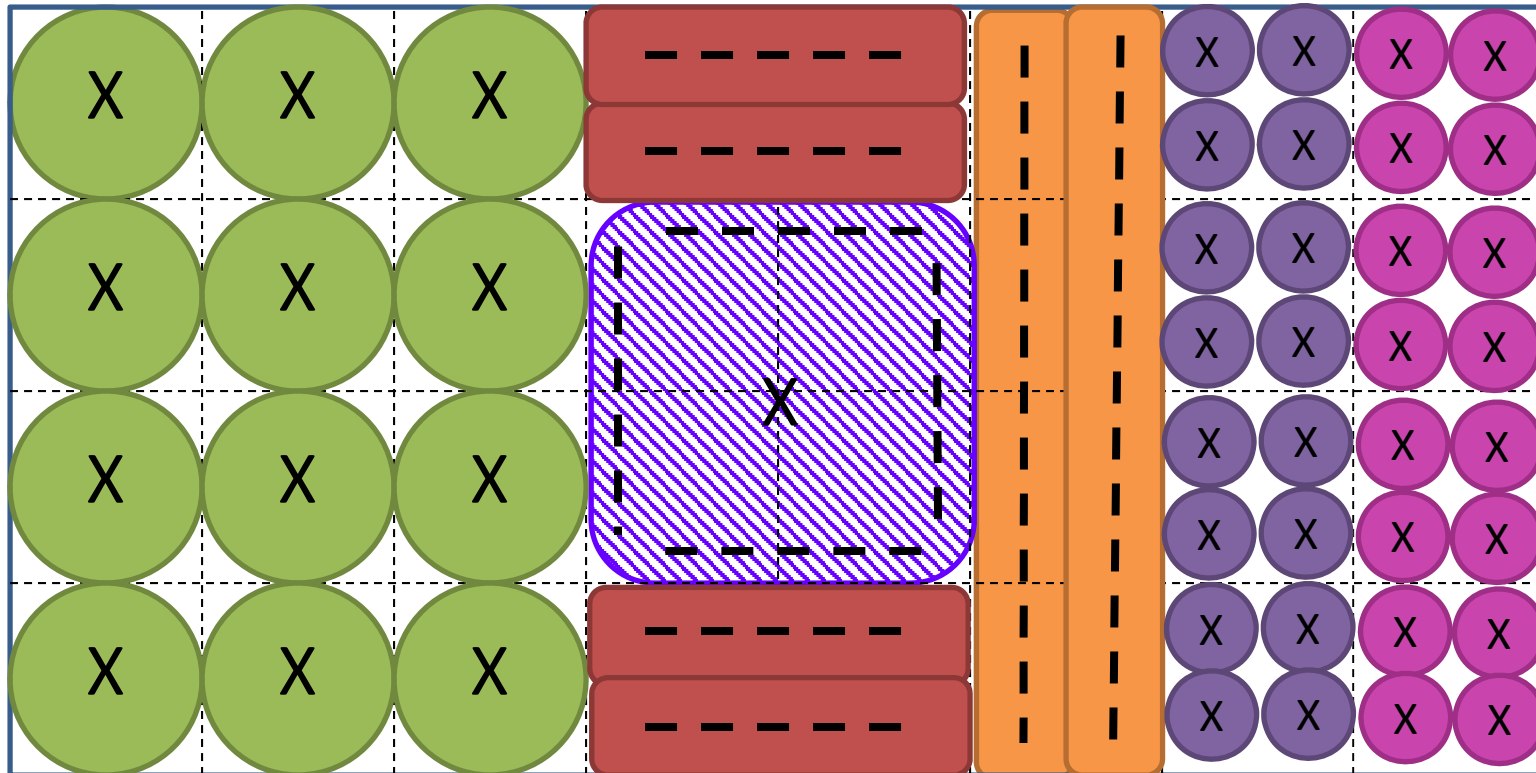
Vegetable	Alternative Plants
Lettuce	spinach, Chinese cabbage, mesclun, mustards, mizuna, arugula, kale, Swiss chard, bok choy
Spring Radishes	kohlrabi, salad turnips, purple top turnips, green onions (from sets)
Alpine Strawberries	No comparable substitutes. Leafy greens or root vegetables could be used instead.
Peas	No comparable substitutes. Leafy greens or root vegetables could be used instead.
Sprouting Broccoli	cabbage, broccoli, Chinese cabbage, bok choy
Swiss Chard	lettuce, Chinese cabbage, mesclun, mustards, mizuna, spinach, kale, arugula, bok choy
Kohlrabi	bulbing fennel, leeks, green onions (from sets)

Sp-11 Spring Garden – Medium Season with Indoor Seed Starting

Moderately complex planting plan.

Planted in mid- to late March, with harvest expected in mid- to late May, at the end of the school year.

Most of the plants should be started from seed indoors in January or February to give a head start on the growing season and allow for maturity of the final plantings by late May



	Radishes		Lettuce		Kohlrabi
X	Denotes planting location		Carrots		Bulbing Fennel
- -	Denotes planting location		Peas on Trellis		

Sp-11 Planting Schedule and Information

Vegetable	Planting Range	Planting Type	Variety Notes
Lettuce	Seed indoors in mid-February. Transplant outdoors in mid- to late March.	Seeds started indoors, then transplanted out in garden.	Any leaf, romaine, or butterhead type.
Spring Radishes	Mid- to late March.	Seed directly in the garden.	Any variety - less than 35 days to maturity.
Bulbing Fennel	Seed indoors in mid-February. Transplant outdoors in mid- to late March.	Seeds started indoors, then transplanted out in garden.	Any variety.
Peas	Late February to late March.	Seed directly in the garden.	Any variety – less than 60 days to maturity preferable. Snow or sugar snap peas may be better choices.
Carrots	Mid- to late March	Seed directly in the garden.	Any variety – less than 60 days to maturity preferable. Others likely will not reach full maturity by late May.
Kohlrabi	Seed indoors in mid-February. Transplant outdoors in mid- to late March.	Seeds started indoors, then transplanted out in garden.	Any variety.

Sp-11 Alternative Plants for the Garden Plan

Vegetable	Alternative Plants
Lettuce	spinach, Chinese cabbage, mesclun, mustards, mizuna, arugula, kale, Swiss chard, bok choy
Spring Radishes	kohlrabi, salad turnips, purple top turnips, green onions (from sets)
Bulbing Fennel	kohlrabi, leeks, green onions (from sets)
Peas	No comparable substitutes. Leafy greens or root vegetables could be used instead without the trellis.
Swiss Chard	lettuce, Chinese cabbage, mesclun, mustards, mizuna, spinach, kale, arugula, bok choy
Kohlrabi	bulbing fennel, leeks, green onions (from sets)

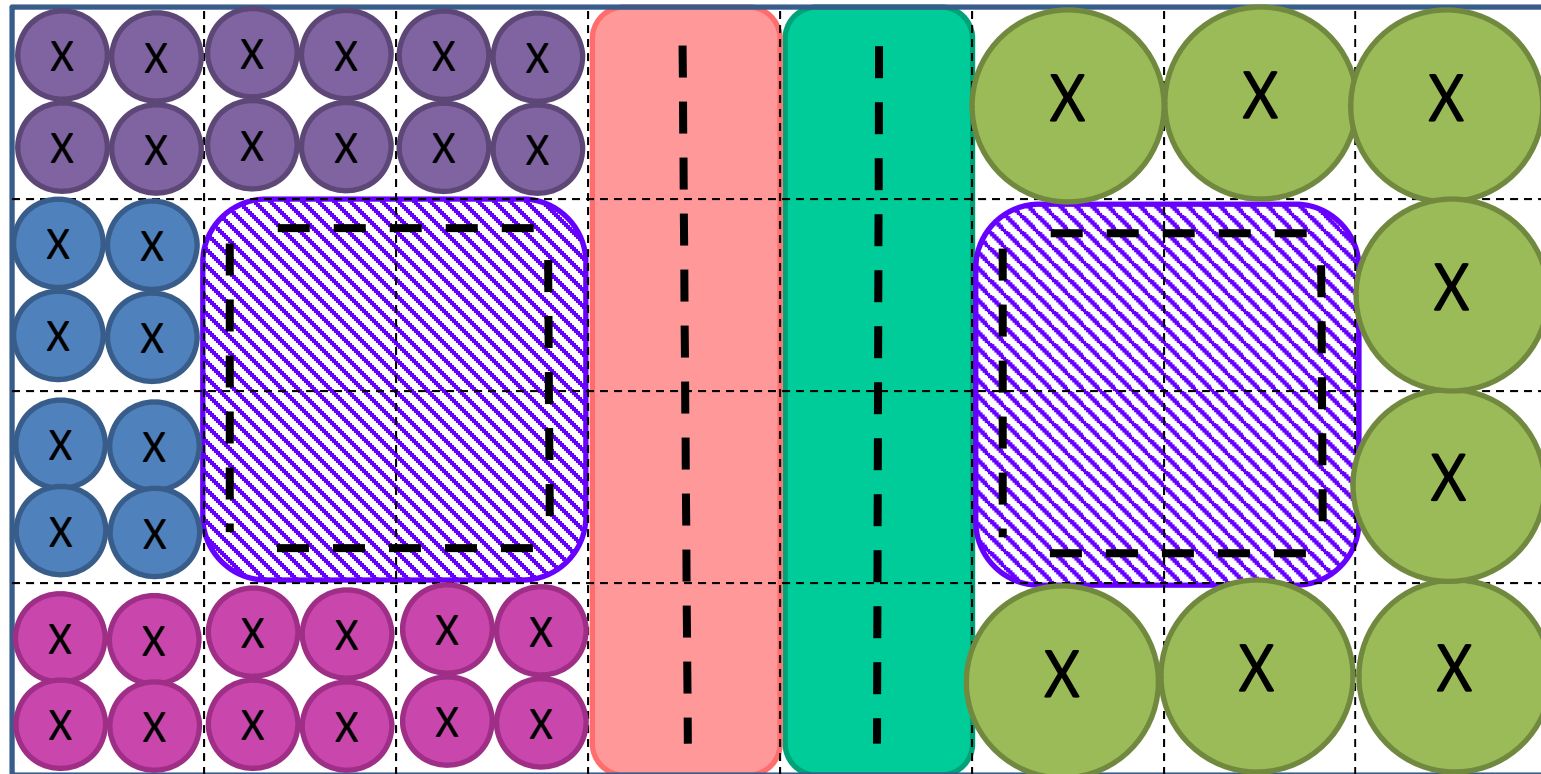
Spring Garden – Medium Season with Indoor Seed Starting








Sp-12

Complex planting plan.

Planted in mid- to late March, with harvest expected in mid- to late May, at the end of the school year.

Most of the plants should be started from seed indoors in January or February to give a head start on the growing season and allow for maturity of the final plantings by late May



-  Bulbing Fennel
-  Lettuce
-  Kale
-  Celery
-  Swiss Chard
-  Peas on Trellis
- X Denotes planting location
-  Kohlrabi
- — Denotes planting location

Sp-12 Planting Schedule and Information



Vegetable	Planting Range	Planting Type	Variety Notes
Lettuce	Seed indoors in mid-February. Transplant outdoors in mid- to late March.	Seeds started indoors, then transplanted out in garden.	Any leaf, romaine, or butterhead type.
Swiss Chard	Mid- to late March.	Seed directly in the garden.	Any variety.
Kale	Mid- to late March.	Seed directly in the garden.	Any variety.
Spring Radishes	Mid- to late March.	Seed directly in the garden.	Any variety - less than 35 days to maturity.
Bulbing Fennel	Seed indoors in mid-February. Transplant outdoors in mid- to late March.	Seeds started indoors, then transplanted out in garden.	Any variety.
Peas	Late February to late March.	Seed directly in the garden.	Any variety – less than 60 days to maturity preferable. Snow or sugar snap peas may be better choices.
Celery	Seed indoors in mid-February. Transplant outdoors in mid- to late March.	Seeds started indoors, then transplanted out in garden.	Any variety. <i>Will not reach full size by late May.</i>
Kohlrabi	Seed indoors in mid-February. Transplant outdoors in mid- to late March.	Seeds started indoors, then transplanted out in garden.	Any variety.

Sp-12 Alternative Plants for the Garden Plan

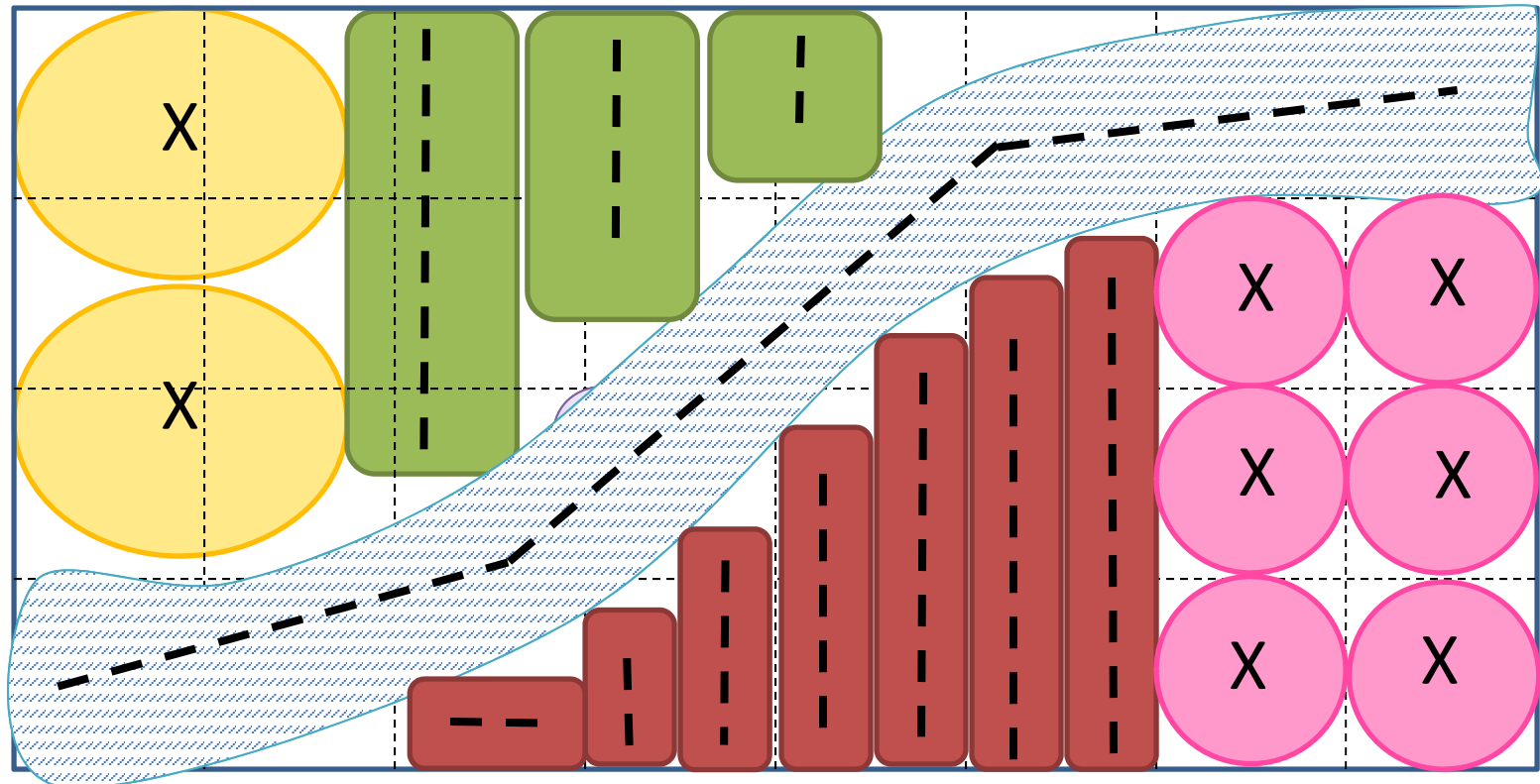
Vegetable	Alternative Plants
Lettuce	spinach, Chinese cabbage, mesclun, mustards, mizuna, arugula, kale, Swiss chard, bok choy, Alpine strawberries
Swiss Chard	lettuce, Chinese cabbage, mesclun, mustards, mizuna, spinach, kale, arugula, bok choy
Kale	lettuce, Chinese cabbage, mesclun, mustards, mizuna, spinach, Swiss chard, arugula, bok choy
Spring Radishes	kohlrabi, salad turnips, purple top turnips, green onions (from sets)
Bulbing Fennel	kohlrabi, leeks, green onions (from sets), celery
Peas	No comparable substitutes. Leafy greens or root vegetables could be used instead without the trellis.
Celery	kohlrabi, bulbing fennel, leeks, green onions (from sets)
Kohlrabi	bulbing fennel, leeks, green onions (from sets), celery

Sp-13 Spring Garden – Medium Season with Indoor Seed Starting

Moderately complex planting plan.

Planted in mid- to late March, with harvest expected in mid- to late May, at the end of the school year.

Most of the plants should be started from seed indoors in January or February to give a head start on the growing season and allow for maturity of the final plantings by late May



Lettuce	Sprouting Broccoli	Dill
Denotes planting location	Radishes	Alpine Strawberries
Denotes planting location		

Sp-13 Planting Schedule and Information

K-STATE

Vegetable	Planting Range	Planting Type	Variety Notes
Lettuce	Seed indoors in mid-February. Transplant outdoors in mid- to late March.	Seeds started indoors, then transplanted out in garden.	Any leaf, romaine, or butterhead type.
Spring Radishes	Mid- to late March.	Seed directly in the garden.	Any variety - less than 35 days to maturity.
Alpine Strawberries	Seed indoors in mid- to late January. Transplant outdoors in mid- to late March.	Seeds started indoors, then transplanted out in garden.	Any variety.
Sprouting Broccoli	Seed indoors in mid-February. Transplant outdoors in mid- to late March.	Seeds started indoors, then transplanted out in garden.	Any variety – less than 55 days to maturity is preferable.
Dill	Seed indoors in mid-February. Transplant outdoors in mid- to late March.	Seeds started indoors, then transplanted out in garden.	Any variety.

Sp-13 Alternative Plants for the Garden Plan

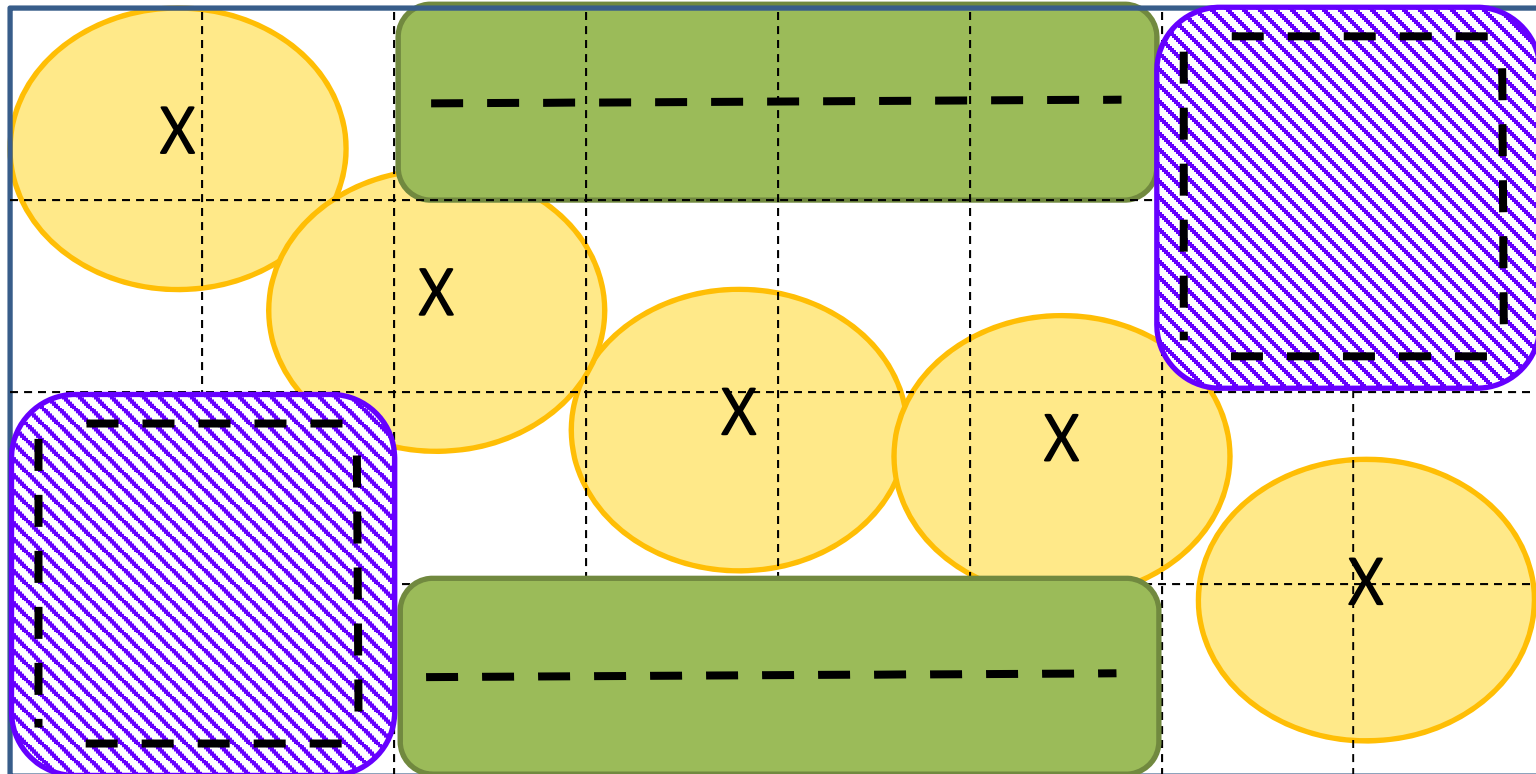
Vegetable	Alternative Plants
Lettuce	Spinach, Chinese cabbage, mesclun, mustards, mizuna, arugula, kale, Swiss chard, bok choy
Spring Radishes	Kohlrabi, salad turnips, purple top turnips, green onions (from sets)
Alpine Strawberries	No comparable substitutes. Leafy greens started indoors could be used instead.
Sprouting Broccoli	Cabbage, broccoli, Chinese cabbage, bok choy
Dill	Fennel, cilantro, parsley, oats (direct seeded)

Sp-14 Spring Garden – Medium Season with Indoor Seed Starting

Simple planting plan.

Planted in mid- to late March, with harvest expected in mid- to late May, at the end of the school year.

Most of the plants should be started from seed indoors in January or February to give a head start on the growing season and allow for maturity of the final plantings by late May



Lettuce



Sprouting Broccoli



Denotes planting location



Peas on Trellis



Denotes planting location

Sp-14 Planting Schedule and Information

Vegetable	Planting Range	Planting Type	Variety Notes
Lettuce	Seed indoors in mid-February. Transplant outdoors in mid- to late March.	Seeds started indoors, then transplanted out in garden.	Any leaf, romaine, or butterhead type.
Sprouting Broccoli	Seed indoors in mid-February. Transplant outdoors in mid- to late March.	Seeds started indoors, then transplanted out in garden.	Any variety – less than 55 days to maturity is preferable.
Peas	Late February to late March.	Seed directly in the garden.	Any variety – less than 60 days to maturity preferable. Snow or sugar snap peas may be better choices.

Sp-14 Alternative Plants for the Garden Plan

Vegetable	Alternative Plants
Lettuce	spinach, Chinese cabbage, mesclun, mustards, mizuna, arugula, kale, Swiss chard, bok choy
Sprouting Broccoli	cabbage, broccoli, Chinese cabbage, bok choy
Peas	No comparable substitutes. Leafy greens or root vegetables could be used instead without the trellis.

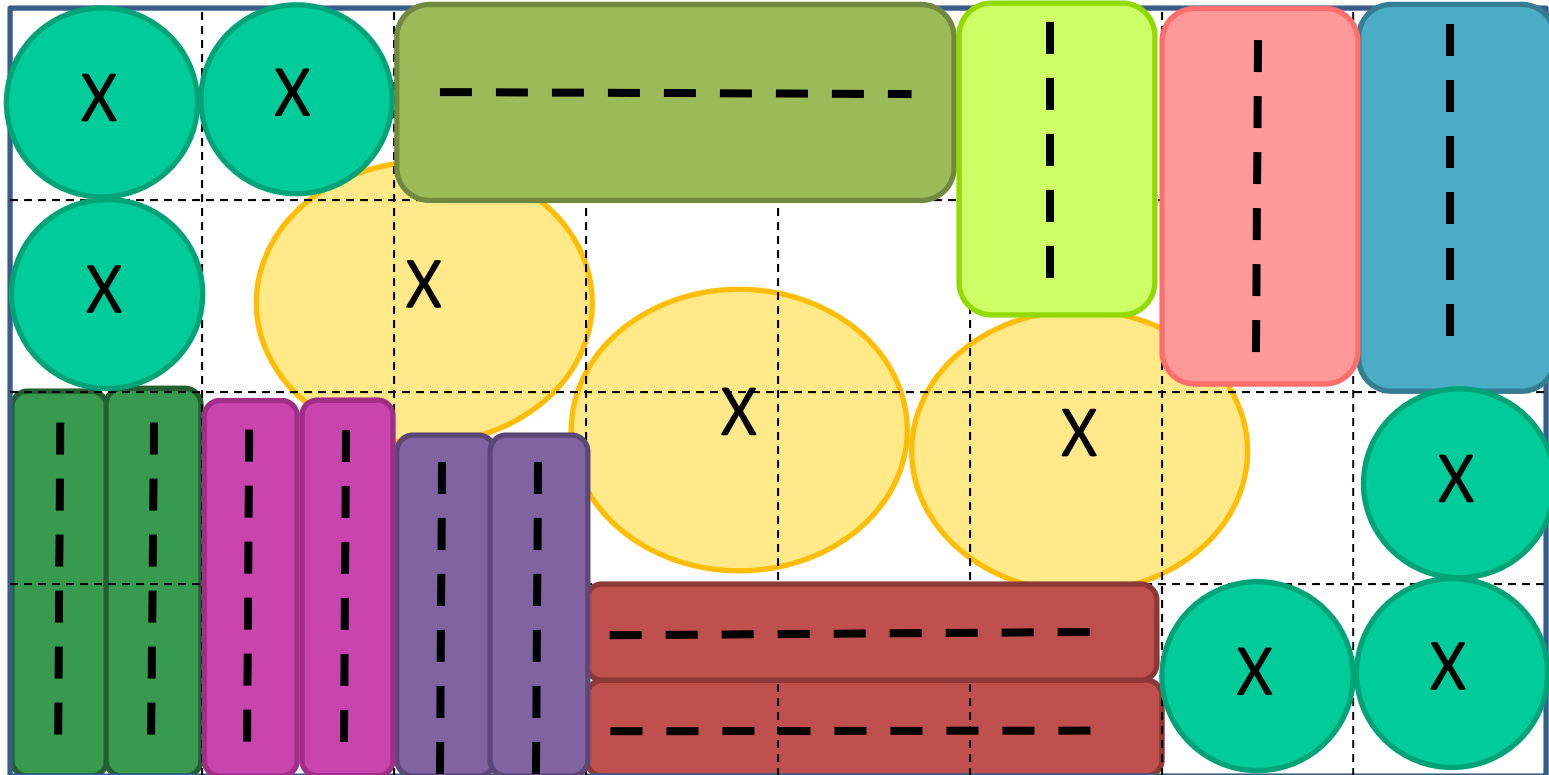
Spring Garden – Medium Season with Indoor Seed Starting













Sp-15

Complex planting plan.

Planted in mid- to late March, with harvest expected in mid- to late May, at the end of the school year.

Most of the plants should be started from seed indoors in January or February to give a head start on the growing season and allow for maturity of the final plantings by late May



- | | | | | | |
|---|----------------|---|---------------------------|---|---------------------------|
|  | Lettuce |  | Sprouting Broccoli |  | Spinach |
|  | Swiss Chard |  | Kohlrabi |  | Bok Choy |
|  | Kale |  | Green Onions |  | Radishes |
|  | Bulbing Fennel |  | Denotes planting location |  | Denotes planting location |

Sp-15 Planting Schedule and Information

Vegetable	Planting Range	Planting Type	Variety Notes
Lettuce	Seed indoors in mid-February. Transplant outdoors in mid- to late March.	Seeds started indoors, then transplanted out in garden.	Any leaf, romaine, or butterhead type.
Swiss Chard	Mid- to late March.	Seed directly in the garden.	Any variety.
Kale	Mid- to late March.	Seed directly in the garden.	Any variety.
Spring Radishes	Mid- to late March.	Seed directly in the garden.	Any variety - less than 35 days to maturity.
Bulbing Fennel	Seed indoors in mid-February. Transplant outdoors in mid- to late March.	Seeds started indoors, then transplanted out in garden.	Any variety.
Sprouting Broccoli	Seed indoors in mid-February. Transplant outdoors in mid- to late March.	Seeds started indoors, then transplanted out in garden.	Any variety – less than 55 days to maturity is preferable.
Green Onions	Mid- to late March	Plant from sets directly in garden	Any variety of onion sets.
Kohlrabi	Seed indoors in mid-February. Transplant outdoors in mid- to late March.	Seeds started indoors, then transplanted out in garden.	Any variety.
Spinach	Mid- to late March	Seeds directly in garden	Any variety.
Bok Choy	Mid- to late March	Seeds directly in garden	Any variety – less than 45 days to maturity is preferable.

Sp-15 Alternative Plants for the Garden Plan

Vegetable	Alternative Plants
Lettuce	spinach, Chinese cabbage, mesclun, mustards, mizuna, arugula, kale, Swiss chard, bok choy
Swiss Chard	lettuce, Chinese cabbage, mesclun, mustards, mizuna, spinach, kale, arugula, bok choy, Alpine strawberries
Kale	spinach, Chinese cabbage, mesclun, mustards, mizuna, arugula, lettuce, Swiss chard, bok choy
Spring Radishes	kohlrabi, salad turnips, purple top turnips, green onions (from sets)
Bulbing Fennel	kohlrabi, leeks, green onions (from sets)
Sprouting Broccoli	cabbage, broccoli
Green Onions	kohlrabi, salad turnips, purple top turnips, spring radishes
Kohlrabi	bulbing fennel, leeks, green onions (from sets)
Spinach	lettuce, Chinese cabbage, mesclun, mustards, mizuna, arugula, kale, Swiss chard, bok choy
Bok Choy	spinach, Chinese cabbage, mesclun, mustards, mizuna, arugula, lettuce, Swiss chard, kale

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