



The Garden:

Students participate in all stages of garden creation, including: planning, building, planting and maintaining their school garden. This process creates a sense of ownership among the students and serves as a valuable learning experience. Students help select garden crops, learn to amend the soil, take responsibility for watering the garden and harvest their own produce. Produce harvested from the garden is served in the cafeteria, eaten in the classroom, donated to local food banks or sent home to families.

The Classroom:

Classroom teachers and extension educators work in partnership to deliver an interdisciplinary garden curriculum covering topics such as:

- Soil health
- Pest control
- Natural resources
- Nutrition
- Plant sciences
- Seasonality and weather

In addition to the garden curriculum, teachers use the garden as an instructional tool to support and enrich curriculum across disciplines.



At recess, I caught students nibbling leaves from the garden

– Paraeducator, Fern Hill Elementary

The Community:

Partnerships with families, community volunteers and local organizations are paramount to the project's success and sustainability. Extension Educators and school administrators work locally to create unique partnerships between schools and their communities. Community partnerships provide the project with:

- Donations of gardening and educational materials
- Gardening expertise and guidance
- Assistance with garden construction and maintenance

Students are trying new fruits and vegetables, starting to grow their own gardens at home and showing excitement to learn.

– Kerri Wilson, WSU Extension Educator

"Healthy Gardens, Healthy Youth"
People's Garden School Pilot Project



The Extension Partnership including:
Washington State University Extension
Cornell University Cooperative Extension
Iowa State University Extension
and Outreach
University of Arkansas Extension