



School Garden Resources & News

Fall 2019

Lesson Plans & Activities

[Nourishing the Planet in the 21st Century](#): These five STEM lessons teach plant and soil science, using gardening to make the lessons fun, interactive, and educational. Intended for grades 3-4.



[Three Sisters Garden](#): Students will investigate the "three sisters" crops and explore the benefit to planting these crops together, while learning about Native American legends and plant growth. Can be adapted for in-classroom container gardening. Intended for grades 3-5. This lesson goes well with this [Native American Harvest](#) handout by Evolving Beauty!

[Seasons Circle Clock](#): Students learn about the seasons by associating these times of the year with outdoor activities. They consider the life events of other animals in New England, and the typical weather for the various times of the year. Intended for K-1.

[Your Fall School Garden](#): This Massachusetts guide suggests activities, techniques, and strategies to address the challenges and benefits of a New England fall school garden!

[UGA Extension School Garden Curriculum](#): Lessons using gardens to teach science topics including earth science, life science, physical science. Lesson plans available for grades K-8.

News, Events & Information

October is [National Farm to School Month](#)! Celebrate with us by visiting the NH Farm to School [website](#), where you'll find celebration ideas and activities for five themed weeks, as well as resources and curricular activities.

[Farm to School Month Photo Contest](#): NH Farm to School will be accepting submissions for our photo contest from October 1st-November 5th in three categories. One in each category will win a prize of up to \$75 value. Submit your photos here.



[Hydroponics: Growing a Sustainable Future](#) – Three participating schools will win a grow wall hydroponics unit courtesy of the UNH 4-H program! [Register here](#).

- October 9th, 3:30-5:00: Hydroponics Fundamentals for the Classroom
- October 16th, 3:30-5:00: The Grow Wall System

October 11th — NH NEA [Conference Workshop](#) "School Gardens and Free Seeds"

[Creating School Yard Habitats Workshops](#)

- October 5th, 9:00-3:30
- November 2nd, 9:00-3:30





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Grants & Fundraising

- [Wild Ones Seeds for Education](#): A grant for native outdoor learning habitats that include youth in planning and development.
\$100-500 – Submit by October 15th
- [Whole Kids Foundation School Gardens Grant](#): To go towards supporting a new or existing youth garden at a K-12 school or a nonprofit.
\$2,000 – Submit by October 15th
- [Whole Kids Foundation Bee Grant](#): Four grant options to choose from including a monetary grant and three equipment grants
\$2,000 – Submit by October 15th
- [NH Partnership for Schoolyard Action Grants](#): supports schools that want to achieve the benefits of nature-based studies for student development and long-term learning goals.
\$500-1,500 – Submit by January 15th
- [Carolyn Bassage Memorial School Grant](#): Supports K-12 research-based gardening education to communities in Strafford County.
\$300 or less – Submit by October 1st

Celebrations from the Community

[The Cornucopia Project](#) of Southern NH provides edible education for the ConVal District and School Garden Consulting to NH schools. Other programs include Cool Chef's children's cooking classes and a high school leadership program on The Cornucopia Project Farm. This non-profit organization began over a decade ago when Hancock, NH resident Kin Schilling decided to invite school children to help in her garden.

Kin's work evolved into a district-wide program with raised bed gardens at all eight elementary schools in the district.



For the past few years The Cornucopia Project School Garden Teachers have been exploring Hugel Kultur. Three additional Hugel Kultur beds were added to their schools last Spring. These raised beds were created by gathering debris from grounds maintenance and the sod dug up from garden teepee construction and arranging it together in a rectangular shape similar to wood-sided raised beds. All weeds without seed heads, grass clippings, and raked leaves went into the new beds, adding to the organic material that will decompose gradually. After being topped off with a bucket of good compost, this structure is ready to seed.

The decaying organic matter from the yard waste creates a slow and steady supply of organic nutrients to the bed while this particular collection of materials creates a loose bed suitable for squash varieties and hearty crops that appreciate great drainage, like the three sisters planting that has been growing all summer at Greenfield Elementary school. The Hugel Kultur bed is especially exciting because it is a zero cost, do-it-yourself project, that any child can successfully complete. Adding thin branches woven together around the edges adds definition and rustic appeal to these little ecosystems.

