



GEAR (Global and Environmental Awareness and Responsibility) – a Toolkit for Inclusive Environmental Education

Project Element: Earth

Age: 4 and 5 year-olds and Primary students.

A SCHOOL ECO-GARDEN

This is a **long term** project that we will be developing throughout the school year.

OBJECTIVES: WHY A SCHOOL ECO-GARDEN?

- Teaching students about **healthy eating** and the benefits of **sustainable living**.
- Giving students an opportunity to examine biodiversity in a practical way.
- Great for educating children about the benefits of conservation of our natural resources: harvesting water, and help to encourage an environmentally responsible attitude.
- Can provide students with **hands-on learning** opportunities while **increasing environmental awareness**.
- Children **develop a sense of community**.
- Instill **lifelong appreciation for the natural world**.
- An opportunity for teaching and learning **outside**.
- **Promote a sense of responsible food choices (a more healthy diet)**

WHAT'S AN ECO-GARDEN?

- Gardening Sustainably.
- Use Natural Fertilizers Rather Than Chemical.
- Conserve Water.
- Use Natural Methods Rather Than Chemical Pesticides To Combat Pests.

GARDENING TOOLS AND STORAGE: WHAT DO WE NEED? and WHERE ARE WE GOING TO STORE OUR TOOLS?

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- Found a space under a staircase .
- Bought some tools and parents brought some other.



DESIGNING THE GARDEN : WHERE? / HOW?

Pupils examined the possible spaces on the school ground, they chose the location and decided to start with a small garden because it was November.

- Started taking off the leaves and cutting the grass.
- Then turned the soil. (dig double deep with a flat bladed spade and a bladed fork)



- Added compost and let it dry
- Tilled the big pieces of soil with a hoe and mixed it with the compost

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- Installed a fence....



- And our garden was ready to start planting.



- Students made a research about the plants that can be planted in autumn-winter and they started by planting seasonal, local foods

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- Now we have to wait and take care of our garden.
- Meanwhile we will start with the next part of the project.

To be continued

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