@JEREMYMANGER
@TEACHINGFUENTES
@GRACE_KEGLEY

COMMUNITY PARTNER

COMMUNITY PARTNER

HIGH TECH ELEMENTARY NORTH COUNTY
1480 W. SAN MARCOS BLVD.
SAN MARCOS, CA 92078

FROM SOIL TO GARDEN

Project Overview

Our school garden is an untapped learning resource. How can we get the kids working outside and getting their hands dirty while encouraging collaboration and deep thinking? We will challenge our students to plan and maintain the school garden with the shared goal of growing vegetables to sell at a local farmer's market, as well as attract pollinators for future projects at our school and live data for our students to collect and analyze.

We will begin with science in our classrooms by conducting various labs on soil and tropism. In addition, we will prepare the outdoor garden for planting, including field work to local school gardens and Cyclops Farms. The first part of our project will be studying the characteristics of plants, how they survive and seed distribution. During the second part of the project we will look at the relationship between plants and animals, particularly looking at pollinators and ants and their effect on seed distribution.

a school garden project: learning through the process of creating

Essential Questions

How do plants survive?

How are plants and animals dependent on each other?

Driving Questions

How do we, as gardeners, grow food for our community without disturbing natural relationships between plants and animals?

How can we help our community come together and take care of this garden beyond our project?

Students will be…

- Researching and informing our community about native plants and animals.
- Writing their observations and reflections in a science notebook.
- Developing and writing an opinion piece on the effects of school of gardens.
- Creating scientific sketches of various pollinators.
- Beautifying the garden through art and landscape features.
- Growing and maintaining an edible garden.

Learning Standards

- *Master core academic content*: Students develop and draw from a baseline understanding of knowledge in an academic discipline and are able to transfer knowledge to other situations.
- *Think critically and solve complex problems*: Students apply tools and techniques gleaned from core subjects to formulate and solve problems, including scientific inquiry, creativity, and persistence.
- *Work collaboratively*: Students cooperate to identify and create solutions to academic, social, vocational, and personal challenges.
- *Communicate effectively*: Students clearly organize their data, findings, and thoughts.
- *Develop academic mindsets*: Students develop positive attitudes and beliefs about themselves as learners that increase their academic perseverance and prompt them to engage in productive academic behaviors. Students are committed to seeing work through to completion, meeting their goals, and doing quality work, and thus search for solutions to overcome obstacles.