

# Gardening in the Classroom

June 29, 2015

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# Agenda

- Lessons learned from Farm to School
- No garden, no problem!
- Resources to develop a garden
- Tips for success

# Farm to (Pre)School

- F2PK is an expansion of the original F2S model
- Serves the full spectrum of child care delivery:
  - Preschools
  - Head Start
  - Centers
  - Programs in K-12 schools
  - Nurseries
  - Family day care homes

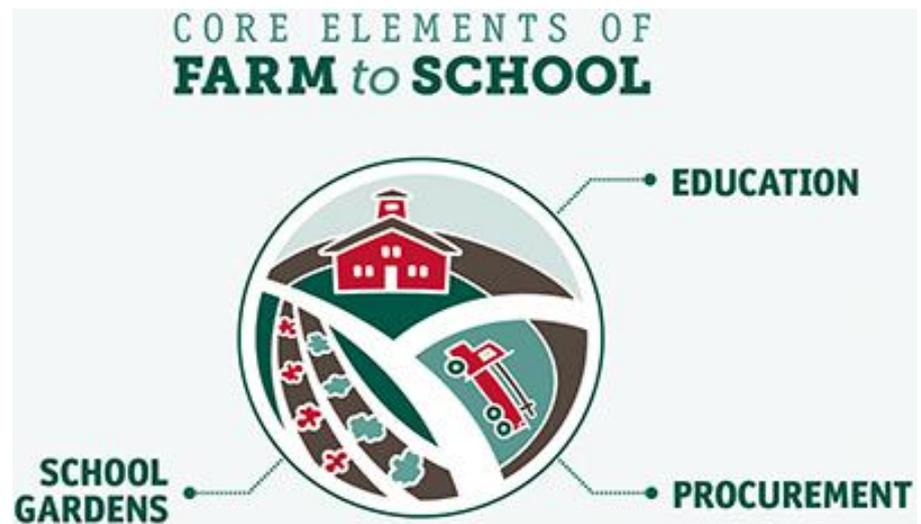
# Farm to (Pre)School

Farm to school implementation differs by location but always includes one or more of the following:

**Procurement:** Local foods are purchased, promoted and served in the cafeteria or as a snack or taste-test

**Education:** Students participate in education activities related to agriculture, food, health or nutrition

**School gardens:** Students engage in hands-on learning through gardening



# Goals of Farm to (Pre)School

- Influencing eating habits of children
- Creating healthy lifestyles through nutrition
- Increasing experiential opportunities
- Improving healthy food access
- Influencing policies

# Benefits of Farm to Preschool

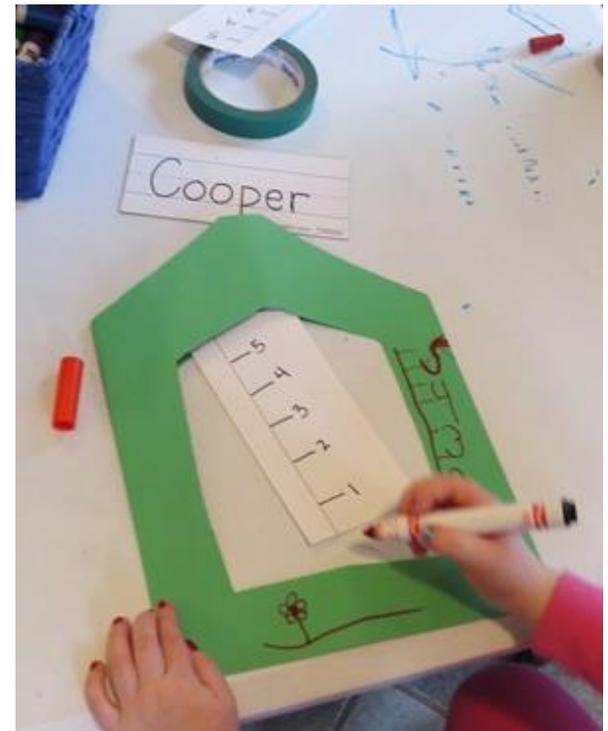
- Health
- Economy
- Education
- Environment
- Ability to incorporate Foundations

# Farm to (Pre)School

## Ways to participate:

1. Sourcing local foods in snacks and meals
2. Promoting and increasing access to local foods
3. **Offering nutrition and/or garden-based curricula**
4. School gardening
5. In-class food prep and taste testing
6. Field trips to farms, farmers' markets and community gardens
7. Implementing preschool wellness policies

# No garden, no problem!



- <http://www.teachpreschool.org/2013/04/creating-a-mini-greenhouse-in-preschool/>

# No garden, no problem!

- **Examples of Foundations Covered in Lesson:**

- ELA.4.101 - Copy a vertical line;
- ELA.4.102 - Copy a horizontal line;
- ELA.4.29 - Use symbols or objects to communicate;
- M.5.18 - Use common measuring tools in correct context;
- SE.3.25 - Stay with an adult-directed activity or story for 10-15 minutes;
- SE.3.38 - Make simple cause/effect predictions;
- SC.1.57 - Compare characteristics of living things;
- SC.1.65 - Express ideas and share observations with others;
- SS.3.34 - Talk about and be curious about the weather;
- FA.1.55 - Show individuality in artwork

# No garden, no problem!



Make  
newspaper pots  
for starting seeds

# No garden, no problem!

## o **Examples of Foundations Covered in Lesson:**

- o ELA.4.14 Distinguish print from pictures;
- o ELA.4.149 Understand and follow a one-step direction;
- o ELA.4.150 Use new vocabulary learned from experiences;
- o M.4.11 Move objects from one container to another;
- o M.5.6 Pour substances out of containers;
- o SE.3.25 - Stay with an adult directed activity or story for 10-15 minutes;
- o SE.3.38 - Make simple cause/effect predictions;
- o SC.1.57 - Compare characteristics of living things;
- o SC.1.65 – Express ideas and share observations with others

# No garden, no problem!

- It's easy to find great garden curriculum and adapt it for the classroom!
  - [Grow It, Try It, Like It!](#)
  - [Growing a Green Generation](#)
  - [The Preschool Initiative](#)
  - and many more!

# Garden Resources – Before You Start

Talking to your director? Applying for a grant?

- Come prepared with hard facts to support your project!
- National Farm to School Network's [Benefits of Farm to School](#)
  - Offers statistics on the benefits of F2S and how it crosses curricula
  - Great list of referenced material if you need more facts!

# Garden Resources – Before You Start

## Policies that support Farm to Preschool

- CACFP funds can be used for costs associated with growing food to be used in the CACFP
- These funds can help cover startup costs for a garden
- <http://www.fns.usda.gov/local-foods-child-and-adult-care-food-program>

## Farm to Preschool Grant and Funding Resources 2015

| Grant Name   | Application Open | Application Due                              | Grant Amount                                    | Notes   |
|--|------------------|--|---|---|
| <a href="#">Sow It Forward</a>                                     | Present          | 1/8/2016                                     | \$325-\$500                                     |   |
| <a href="#">Annie's Grants for Gardens</a>                         | 10/15/2015       |  |   |   |
| <a href="#">Kids Gardening Youth Garden Grant</a>                  | Check website    | December 2015                                | \$500   |   |
| <a href="#">Captain Planet Foundation Small Grants</a>             |                  | September 30th and January 31st annually     |   | For tax-exempt organizations  |
| <a href="#">Green Thumb Challenge</a>                              |                  |  |   | Free program that awards prizes to participants   |
| <a href="#">Jamba Juice "It's All About the Fruit and Veggies"</a> |                  | March 2016                                   |   | Open to schools, community organizations, and nonprofit programs in the United States gardening with at least 15 children between the ages of 3 and 18  |
| <a href="#">Community Foundation Grants</a>                        | Varies by county | Varies by County                             |   | Every county has its own Community Foundation and its own unique grant program and application; some foundations will award grants worth \$20,000 or more; these opportunities may be best for a group of collaborators working on a project  |
| <a href="#">No Kid Hungry Community Grant</a>                      |                  | 1st round - Spring; 2nd Round - Early Summer |   | Scroll to Community Grants section of website for more information about the program  |
| <a href="#">Labels for Education</a>                               |                  |  | UPCs can be collected and exchange for supplies | Eligible schools/organizations are public and private schools (K-12), home school associations (K-12) that comply with laws and regulations for the state in which they operate, licensed child care centers, public libraries, religious educational centers and Head Start centers having any of the grades K through 12 and preschools |
| <a href="#">Michael and Susan Dell</a>                             |                  |  | \$500-millions                                  | These are typically larger grants; if considering applying, it may be useful to reach out to the organization   |

# Garden Resources

- [School Garden Wizard](#)
- [Got Dirt? Garden Toolkit](#)
- [The People's Garden](#) from USDA
- Connect with [Master Gardeners](#)
- [Indiana Farm to Preschool](#)
  - [Start Growing, Start Eating Indiana! Toolkit](#)
- [National Farm to Preschool](#)

# Tips for Success with Farm to Preschool

- Focus on what's achievable for your site
- Start small and grow over time
- Don't reinvent the wheel – use existing resources
- Find lessons and curricula that plug into what you teach
- Gain support if you want to expand Farm to Preschool at your site

# Questions?

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