
Curriculum Library

[New York Agriculture in the Classroom \(K-12\)](#)

New York Agriculture in the Classroom has an online, searchable, and standards- based curriculum matrix for K-12 teachers, using national education standards in science, social studies, and nutrition education to enhance your school garden.

[Edible Schoolyard \(PK - 12\)](#)

Edible Schoolyard empowers students with knowledge and values to make food choices that are healthy for them, their communities, and the environment through their pre-k through high school curriculum. Lessons are fully integrated into academic subjects, support content standards, Common Core, and Next Generation Science Standards and they're designed to achieve edible education learning goals and life skills like communication, personal & community stewardship, flexibility, and perseverance.

[GrowNYC's Zero Waste Schools Program \(3-12\)](#)

Looking to tie in recycling education and initiatives surrounding your school garden? Check out these resources for deepening students understanding of why it is important to reduce our waste and decrease the amount of materials sent to landfills. Looking closely at the social, economic and environmental reasons to reduce waste provides students with the motivation to recycle. Lessons are available for upper elementary through high school students.

[GrowNYC Food Justice Curriculum \(High School\)](#)

This 8-lesson curriculum was designed to empower and enlighten people about Food Justice. Food Justice efforts are a rallying cry from the people directly affected by inequitable food policies and practices. Our GrowNYC team designed this curriculum with NYC high schoolers in mind, although it can be adapted for all ages and places. Each lesson introduces a different aspect of Food Justice, with key vocabulary, videos, discussion questions and a post-activity.

[GrowNYC Farmstand Business Curriculum \(High School\)](#)

The Farmstand Business curriculum empowers school communities to take a meaningful look at our food system, to evaluate the growing capacity at their individual schools, and examines the model GrowNYC has used for over 50 years to support food access in New York City. It allows your school to reach beyond the perimeter of your school garden and onto plates in your communities, while allowing your students to learn real-world business skills.

[Life Lab \(K-5\)](#)

Life Lab, is a Santa Cruz based nonprofit organization, that cultivates children's love of learning, healthy food, and nature through garden-based education. Through workshops and

consultations, they provide tens of thousands of educators across the country with the inspiration and information necessary to engage young people in gardens and on farms. They have a list of garden-based lessons and activities that are standards aligned. Access the Life Lab website [here](#).

[Spanish Language Garden Resources from Life Lab / Recursos jardinerias en español de Life Lab \(K-5\)](#)

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[National Wildlife Federation \(PK-12\)](#)

The National Wildlife Federation provides educators with easy-to-implement, trusted curriculum and activities that help inspire the next generation of environmental stewards. Curriculum options are available for Pre-K-12 students and include [Lesson Plans and Webinars](#), [Monarch Mission](#), [Access Nature](#), [Schoolyard Habitats How To Guides](#), [Schoolyard Habitat Audits](#), [Planting for Pollinators](#), and much more.

[Gowanus Canal Conservancy \(5 - 8\)](#)

Teachers can download free STEM Gowanus curriculum for grades 5-8, including pre, post and field lessons, background text, maps and handouts integrated for use in Science, ELA, and Social Studies and aligned with Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards. There are six curriculum units to choose from including: The History & Geography of the Gowanus Canal, Exploring the Gowanus Watershed & Sewershed, Water & Soil Quality Testing, Flora & Fauna of the Gowanus Canal, and Capstone Project Using the Design Process. All use the design process for project-based learning. Filling out a [pre-survey](#) grants you the link to download the above units. For questions, contact education@gowanuscanalconservancy.org

[KidsGardening Lesson Plans and Garden Activities \(K-12\)](#)

KidsGardening has been creating and publishing resources to help teachers, volunteers and parents plan successful youth gardens and implement effective youth garden programs.

[Spanish Language Lessons from KidsGardening: Siembra con niños \(K-12\)](#)

KidsGardening has been creating and publishing resources to help teachers, volunteers and parents plan successful youth gardens and implement effective youth garden programs. They provide select lesson plans and activities in Spanish.

[WholeKids Foundation Curriculum \(PreK- 5\)](#)

Whole Kids Foundation and American Heart Association created these 35 lessons plans to connect classrooms to the garden. The activities engage students in a fun and educational exploration of fruits, vegetables and healthy eating. The lessons are cross-curricular and can be found [here](#).

[Bee Lesson Plans from The Bee Conservancy \(PreK - 12\)](#)

The Bee Conservancy has compiled lesson plans for PreK-12th grade on topics of honeybees around the globe and in New York City, native bees, and pollinator gardens. There are many hands-on activities, whether or not your school garden has a beehive.

[Bronx Green-Up Grow More Vegetables Curriculum \(Adult\)](#)

Created for adult learners but adaptable for all ages, this curriculum includes 5 lessons outlining organic growing techniques. Lessons are free for download at the above link.

[NYBG](#)

The New York Botanic Garden (NYBG) is a beloved gardening and greening institution in NYC. Their teacher resource page has curriculum, gardening calendars, garden case studies, and a bibliography of garden related books for students. You can access the full teacher resource center at the NYBG [here](#). Lesson plans are searchable by topic area or grade level and are aligned with the New York City Science Scope and Sequence, as well as New York State Standards." Explore NYBG lesson plans [here](#).

[The Battery Conservancy \(K-8\)](#)

The Battery Conservancy's educational experiences take advantage of The Battery's rich history and biodiverse landscapes. These include a vegetable farm, a food forest of native plants, New York Harbor waterfront, toxin-free lawns, and the largest perennial gardens in North America that are free and open to the public every day of the year. Programs are available for all ages. Education programs for K-12 students align with Core Curriculum State Standards and Next Generation Science Standards.

[Border Crossers \(K-12\)](#)

Gardens are important educational tools, but they can also be safe and neutral spaces to have important and honest conversations about race and racism. Gardens can be spaces that celebrate the multiculturalism of our student bodies by planting diverse crops from all around the world - veggies and herbs that are important to so many of our NYC communities. [Border Crossers](#) created this Black History Month Resource Guide for Educators and Families featuring readings and curricula for classrooms and gardens during Black History Month and beyond.

[In Defense of Food \(6-8\)](#)

Michael Pollan, author of *The Omnivore's Dilemma* and other books about navigating our food system, has a documentary film based on his book: *In Defense of Food*. Teachers College of Columbia University created a middle-school curriculum for educators for the film. You can access video clips, resource guides, register for the full curriculum, and screening toolkits at [PBS - In Defense of Food. Pollan's website](#) offers a wealth of other classroom resources including a young readers version of *The Omnivore's Dilemma*.

[PS 84M's Root Camp \(5\)](#)

PS 84M developed a 10-class nutrition/cooking curriculum - Root Camp - for 5th graders aimed at giving kids basic nutrition and cooking knowledge as they move from elementary to middle school and have access to more food choices.

[Nourish Curriculum \(K - 12\)](#)

Nourish is an educational initiative designed to open meaningful conversations about food and sustainability in schools. Nourish combines PBS television, curriculum, web content, short films, and teacher/youth seminars to celebrate food and community. Download the free curriculum by [registering online](#). Access short films from their [website](#).

[USDA's Dig In Curriculum \(6-8\)](#)

The USDA's Food & Nutrition Services Team has developed a middle school garden-to-classroom curriculum. "Dig In" explores a world of possibilities in the garden and on your plate using ten inquiry-based lessons that engage 5th and 6th graders in growing, harvesting, tasting, and learning about fruits and vegetables. You can access the 10-lesson series through the [USDA website](#).

[USDA Agriculture in the Classroom \(K-12\)](#)

The USDA website is a wealth of farm to school information. Their teacher portal has a curriculum section that is searchable by grade level and Health, Social Studies, or Science content standards. It also provides companion resources for free lesson plans. Access the USDA Teacher Center [here](#).

