

# The edible garden project



**The Edible Garden Education Program (EGEP) is a hands-on, interactive educational program bringing students out of the classroom and into the garden. Students participate in lessons from September to June that teach the cycles of food production from seed to soil.**

## Program Details:

### Grades:

All grades (K-12) are invited to participate. Educational activities will be grade appropriate.

### Lessons:

Throughout the school year our garden lessons will be organized by seasonal themes.

- September: Garden discovery (Optional: Loutet Farm Visit)
- October: Garlic & seed harvesting
- November: Mulching & soil
- December: Break
- January: Seed ID & seed experiments
- February: Garden planning & seed starting
- March: Planting & garden bed cleanup
- April: Planting & composting
- May: Planting & pollinators (Optional: Loutet Farm visit)
- June: Harvest & celebration

### Lesson Format:

*Time:* Lessons are 40-60 minutes.

*Visits:* Once per month

*Location:* Lessons are held outside in the school garden in almost all weather conditions. Optional farm visit to Loutet Farm.

*Who is involved:* Lessons are led by EGP staff with assistance from volunteers and the classroom teacher. Emphasis will be on small group activities.

### Volunteers:

We recruit, coordinate, and train volunteers from the community. Parents from the school are also encouraged to volunteer.

### Teacher communication, enrichment and consultation:

EGP coordinates classroom visits and provides follow-up communication with teachers after each lesson. Communication includes enrichment activities for each monthly lesson, gardening consultation if needed and garden/lesson reminders.

### Cost:

- \$500/class (minimum three classes)

*"I was blown away when I came in today and all they could talk about was plants!"*  
- Grade 5-6 teacher

*"This program provides a great opportunity for students to learn hands on how to grow and care for vegetables. Students enjoyed eating the food they grew."*  
- Grade 2-3 teacher