



Goals include:
Connecting people to plants and the planet
Increased **community** engagement
Service **learning** opportunities
Growing one's own food
Student marketing opportunities
Better **nutritional** habits
Food **safety** curriculum

Promoting school gardens in North Dakota

Consider the opportunities available for education in this grant!

Connecting people to plants and the plant:

Lessons and activities addressing planting, growing, harvesting, packaging and marketing can be integrated into classes such as: horticulture, science, mathematics, marketing, family consumer sciences, health and nutrition, physical education, creative writing or art.

Community engagement:

Involving family members, extension agents, school staff and administration, local retailers and restaurants, senior centers, master gardeners, health coalitions, public health, student organizations, civic organizations and clubs in an inter-generational gardening experience.

Service learning:

Growing gardens to assist others. Examples of service learning projects can be to grow produce for donation to a local food bank or low-income citizens, to generate funds for local charities, civic groups or other community projects.

Leadership Skill Development:

Students develop problem-solving skills, entrepreneurial skills and engage in teaming with peers, school staff, and community members. Students will learn new life-skills, which improve self-esteem and attitudes about school.

Increased vegetable and fruit consumption:

Studies have shown that if students are actively involved in the growing and cultivating of their food, they are more apt to eat that food. Because locally-grown produce is fresh, it tastes better and the nutritional value is greater.

Opportunities to practice construction concepts:

Students use their construction skills to construct a greenhouse, build raised beds or plot sections of gardening areas for the project.

Opportunities to market school greenhouse or garden crops:

Students harvest, market and sell the produce to the school, retail stores, restaurants and the community through a farmers' market, road side stand or grow crops to fill customer specific requests: Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)