

LENDING LIBRARY

BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

BOOKS FOR EDUCATORS

- EARLY CHILDHOOD
- ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE
- HIGH SCHOOL
- WORMS
- NATURE
- STARTING A SCHOOL GARDEN
- REFERENCES

BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

First The Egg by Laura Vaccaro Seeger

WHICH CAME FIRST? The chicken or the egg? Simple die-cuts magically present transformation--from seed to flower, tadpole to frog, caterpillar to butterfly.

The acclaimed author of *Black? White! Day? Night!* And *Lemons Are Not Red* gives an entirely fresh and memorable presentation to the concepts of transformation and creativity. Seed becomes flower, paint becomes picture, word becomes story--and the commonplace becomes extraordinary as children look through and turn the pages of this novel and winning book. **Age 2-6**

<http://us.macmillan.com/splash/publishers/roaring-brook-press.html>

Apple by Nikki McClure

Apple follows the life of an apple throughout the year, demonstrating the cyclical patterns in nature. The youngest readers will delight in following the journey of the bright red apple—the only splash of color in the otherwise black-and-white illustrations—as it travels from tree, to harvest, to snack, to compost, and finally to sprout. A single word complements each illustration, urging early readers to reflect on each stage in the apple's life. **Age 3-6**

<http://www.abramsbooks.com/Books/Apple-9781419703782.html>

How a Seed Grows by Helene J. Jordan

How does a tiny acorn grow into an enormous oak tree? With beautiful and accurate watercolor illustrations from Loretta Krupinski, this book by Helene Jordan traces the process of how a little seed grows into the plants and trees that surround us. **Age 4-8**

<http://www.harpercollins.com/9780060201852/how-a-seed-grows>

The Snail's Spell by Joanne Ryder

"Brilliant illustrations and a short text invite an unnamed sleeping, pajama-clad child into a garden teeming with wildlife. The boy gradually shrinks until he is so small he experiences things as a snail would. The incredibly detailed drawings and the idea of shrinking to enter another world should capture children's imaginations."--School Library Journal. **Age 3+**

<http://www.penguin.com/book/the-snails-spell-by-joanne-ryder/9780140508918>

Hurry and the Monarch by Antoine Ó Flatharta

When the beautiful orange Monarch on her fall migration route from Canada to Mexico stops to rest at Wichita Falls, Texas, she makes friends with an old tortoise called Hurry. She tells him, "Maybe one day you'll break out of that shell, grow wings, and fly away," and then she is off again with millions of other Monarchs. In the spring, she stops again at Hurry's garden just long enough to lay her eggs and head north to Canada. Embedded in this lyrical and tender fictional presentation are the fascinating facts about the amazing 2,000-mile migration and the life cycle of butterflies. An afterword provides additional scientific data. **Age 5-8**

<http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/book/hurry-and-monarch#cart/cleanup>

Dirt by Steve 'The Dirtmeister' Tomecek

What is soil? Who lives in dirt? How does earth help things grow? The answers are within this fun-and fact-filled picture book. Just follow the gardening star-nosed mole in the colorful outfits...and dig in!! **Age 5-10**

http://www.amazon.com/Jump-into-Science-Steve-Tomecek/dp/1426300891/ref=sr_1_5?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1404757753&sr=1-5&keywords=dirt

In the Garden with Dr. Carver by Susan Grigsby

Sally is a young girl living in rural Alabama in the early 1900s, a time when people were struggling to grow food in soil that had been depleted by years of cotton production. One day, Dr. George Washington Carver shows up to help the grownups with their farms and the children with their school garden. **Age 7-9**

<http://www.susangrigsby.com/books.html>

Laughing Tomatoes and Other Spring Poems/Jitomates Risuenos y Otros Poemas de Primavera by Francisco X. Alarcon

Tomatoes laugh, chiles explode, and tortillas applaud the sun! With joy and tenderness, delight and sadness, Alarcon's poems honor the wonders of life and nature: welcoming the morning sun, remembering his grandmother's songs, paying tribute to children working in the fields, and sharing his dream of a world filled with gardens. **Age 6+**

<http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/book/laughing-tomatoes-and-other-spring-poems>

Wild Berries by Julie Flett

Spend the day picking wild blueberries with Clarence and his grandmother. Meet ant, spider, and fox in a beautiful woodland landscape, the ancestral home of author and illustrator Julie Flett. This book is written in both English and Cree, in particular the n-dialect, also known as Swampy Cree from the Cumberland House area. *Wild Berries* is also available in the n-dialect Cree, from the Cross Lake, Norway House area, published by Simply Read Books. **Age 3-7**

http://www.simplyreadbooks.com/book.php?book_id=108

The Gigantic Turnip by Aleksei Tolstoy & Niamh Sharkey

This hilarious retelling of the classic Russian tale about a farmer whose turnip is impossible to pull from the ground uses simple vocabulary and is ideal for reading aloud. Its cumulative theme will

soon have young readers gleefully joining in, and Irish artist Niamh Sharkey's wonderfully quirky illustrations will delight and fascinate all ages. **Ages 3-7**

<http://store.barefootbooks.com/the-gigantic-turnip-4.html>

Mama, is it Summer Yet? by Nikki McClure

Young children see the passage of time through the seasonal changes to the world around them in this charming book, illustrated with Nikki McClure's extraordinary cut-paper art. A little boy who can't wait for summer keeps asking his mama, "Is it summer yet?" Mama says, "Not yet, little one," then points to the signs that spring is turning to summer—the softening of the earth, the nest-building of squirrels, the singing of birds—and encourages her son to savor the beauty of spring. Following the success of *All in a Day*, Nikki McClure once again uses her unique paper cutouts to showcase wonderful images of nature and the joys of family and the outdoors, creating a book that is both timeless and fresh. **Age 4+**

http://www.abramsbooks.com/Books/Mama_Is_It_Summer_Yet_-9780810984684.html

Messy Bessey's Garden by Patricia and Frederick McKissack All Rookie Readers actively engage young readers, encouraging language development, building fluency, and promoting independent reading. By targeting a skill, like learning about rhymes, young readers are building fundamental reading skills with the help of fun, lively, colorfully illustrated stories. **Age 6+**

<http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/book/messy-besseys-garden#cart/cleanup>

My Spring Robin by Anne Rockwell

When spring arrives, a young girl looks everywhere for the robin who sang for her last year. She sees all the sights and sounds of the new season: a blooming crocus, a buzzing bee, a colorful magnolia tree, a brief rain shower; but where is the robin? **Ages 3-6**

<http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/book/my-spring-robin>

The Sun, the Wind and the Rain by Lisa Westberg Peters

While Elizabeth builds a mountain out of wet sand, the geological concept of mountain formation is clearly explained and impressively illustrated. **Age 4-8**

<http://us.macmillan.com/thesunthewindandtherain/LisaWestbergPeters>

To Market To Market by Nikki McClure

Known for art that celebrates the virtues of community, hard work, and living gently on the planet, Nikki McClure here explores a topic close to her heart: the farmers market. Alternating between story and fact, this lovingly crafted picture book follows a mother and son to the weekly market. As they check off items on their shopping list, the reader learns how each particular food was grown or produced, from its earliest stages to how it ended up at the market. *To Market, to Market* is a timely book that shines awareness on the skill that goes into making good food. **All ages**

http://www.abramsbooks.com/Books/To_Market_to_Market-9780810997387.html

Our School Garden by Rick Swann

New city, New school. Michael is feeling all alone—until he discovers the school garden! There's so many ways to learn, and so much work to do. Taste a leaf? Mm, nice and tangy hot. Dig for bugs?

“Roly-poly!” he yells. But the garden is much more than activities outdoors: making school garden stone soup, writing Found Poems and solving garden riddles, getting involved in community projects such as Harvest Day, food bank donations, and spring plant sales. Each season creates a new way to learn, explore, discover and make friends. **Age 8-12**

<http://www.readerstoeaters.com/our-books/our-school-garden>

Seedfolks by Paul Fleischman

A vacant lot, rat-infested and filled with garbage, looked like no place for a garden. Especially to a neighborhood of strangers where no one seems to care. Until one day, a young girl clears a small space and digs into the hard-packed soil to plant her precious bean seeds. Suddenly, the soil holds promise: To Curtis, who believes he can win back Lateesha's heart with a harvest of tomatoes; to Virgil's dad, who sees a fortune to be made from growing lettuce; and even to Maricela, sixteen and pregnant, wishing she were dead. Thirteen very different voices and perspectives—old, young, Haitian, Hispanic, tough, haunted, and hopeful—tell one amazing story about a garden that transforms a neighborhood. **Age 10+**

<http://www.paulfleischman.net>

Weeds Find a Way by Cindy Jenson-Elliott

From bright yellow dandelions popping through cracks in sidewalks to purple loosestrife growing rampant along roadways, weeds offer unexpected splashes of color and life to the least likely of places. With lovely language and a sly sense of humor, this beautiful picture book celebrates the tenacious temperaments of these pesky plants and is sure to have little ones chanting, “Way to go, weeds!” **Age 4-8**

<http://books.simonandschuster.biz/Weeds-Find-a-Way/Cindy-Jenson-Elliott/9781442412606>

Compost Stew by Mary McKenna Siddals

Kids everywhere are knowledgeable about the environment and climate change. Not only is composting becoming more common in households and residential gardens, but many school gardens feature compost piles, too. But how do you start a compost pile? What's safe to include? Perfect for an Earth Day focus or year-round reference, this inviting book provides all the answers for kids and families looking for simple, child-friendly ways to help the planet. **Age 3-7**

<http://www.randomhouse.com/book/198739/compost-stew-by-mary-mckenna-siddals>

A Kid's Herb Book by Lesley Tierra

Kids! Explore the mysterious world of herbs with this magical, herbal workbook: Make your own healing potions, secret remedies, magical salves, enchanted syrups and special healing remedies. Recipes, projects, delightful stories, chant herbal songs, color in pictures, activities, grow your own garden, create healing herbal preparations! **All ages**

http://www.amazon.com/Kids-Herb-Book-ChildrenAges/dp/1885003366/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1404419018&sr=8-1&keywords=kids+herb+book

Busing Brewster by Richard Michelson

Brewster is excited about starting first grade . . . until Mama announces that he'll be attending Central—a school in the white part of town. Mama says they have art and music and a library

bursting with books, but Brewster isn't so sure he'll fit in. Being black at a white school isn't easy, and Brewster winds up spending his first day in detention at the library. But there he meets a very special person: Miss O'Grady. The librarian sees into Brewster's heart and gives him not only the gift of books but also the ability to believe in himself. **Age 3-7**

<http://www.randomhousekids.com/books/detail/114036-busing-brewster?isbn=9780375833342#.U7W4vxb495s>

The Curious Garden by Peter Brown

One boy's quest for a greener world... one garden at a time. While out exploring one day, a little boy named Liam discovers a struggling garden and decides to take care of it. As time passes, the garden spreads throughout the dark, gray city, transforming it into a lush, green world. This is an enchanting tale with environmental themes and breathtaking illustrations that become more vibrant as the garden blooms. Red-headed Liam can also be spotted on every page, adding a clever seek-and-find element to this captivating picture book. **Age 3-7**

<http://www.peterbrownstudio.com>

Farmer Will Allen and the Growing Table by Jacqueline Briggs Martin

Will Allen is no ordinary farmer. A former basketball star, he's as tall as his truck, and he can hold a cabbage, or a basketball, in one hand. But what is most special about Farmer Will is that he can see what others can't see. When he looked at an abandoned city lot he saw a huge table, big enough to feed the whole world. No space, no problem. Poor soil, there's a solution. Need help, found it. Farmer Will is a genius in solving problems. In 2008, the MacArthur Foundation named him one. Jacqueline Briggs Martin, author of the Caldecott winner, *Snowflake Bentley*, tells the inspiring story of an innovator, educator, and community builder. Combined with artist Eric Larkin's striking artwork, readers will share Will Allen's optimism and determination to bring good food to every table. **Age 10-12 (but we read this as young as kindergarten!)**

<http://www.readerstoeaters.com/our-books/farmer-will-allen-and-the-growing-table>

First Peas to the Table by Susan Grigsby

Thomas Jefferson loved to garden. In the spring, he and his neighbors competed to see whose peas would be ready to eat first. Two hundred years later, Maya's class is having their own first Peas to the Table garden contest Will a secret tip from Thomas Jefferson help Maya win? **Age 6-9**

http://www.susangrigsby.com/books.html#anchor_63

The Maybe Garden by Fredrika P. Spillman

A child uses Mother's ordinary suggestions for a garden as a springboard for imagining all sorts of unique and creative garden ideas. **Age 4-7**

<http://www.amazon.com/Maybe-Garden-Kimberly-Burke-Weiner/dp/0941831574>

BOOKS FOR TEACHERS

EARLY CHILDHOOD

Early Sprouts by Karrie Kalich, Dottie Bauer, and Deirdre McPartlin

A research-based nutrition curriculum, where children will engage in sensory exploration and cooking activities that focus on six target vegetables—tomatoes, green beans, bell peppers, swiss chard, carrots, and butternut squash. Family Recipe Kits included so children can share and continue what they learn at home. **Age 2-5**

<http://www.redleafpress.org/Early-Sprouts-P271.aspx>

Garden Adventures by Sarah Pounders

An activity guide centered on four core questions: What is a plant? Where do plants come from? How do we take care of plants? Why are plants important? Complete with background information, a parent newsletter to promote family involvement, and hands-on activities. **Age 2-5**

<http://www.amazon.com/Garden-Adventures-3a-Exploring-Plants-Children/dp/0915873303>

Roots, Shoots, Buckets, and Boots by Sharon Lovejoy

Imagine growing a pizza patch, a flowery maze, and a moon garden with your children. In this whimsical, storybook-like resource, Sharon Lovejoy shares her passion for connecting children to nature with simple garden activities, ideas for crafts children can make with what they grow, and creative ways to incorporate a “Discovery Walk” into the gardens. **Age 2-5**

<http://www.workman.com/products/9780761110569/>

Sowing the Seeds of Wonder by Life Lab Science Program

An extensive list of fun, step-by-step, inexpensive garden activities provides engaging ways for children to fully engage their senses to explore their outdoor environment, while learning math, science, language, and art. Kids will dig into the soil, observe insects, birds, and other garden creatures, and harvest, cook, and taste fresh produce. Gardening how-to's, inspiring case studies, plant lists, as well as songs and stories provide educators with more ways to further enrich the outdoor learning experience. **Age 2-5**

<http://www.lifelab.org>

ELEMENTARY-MIDDLE

The ABC's of Fruits and Vegetables and Beyond by Steve Charney

This rich alphabet book is actually two books in one - it will not be put aside after a child learns the alphabet. It will provide on-going pleasures for children (and parents) as they progress from beginning readers into grade school and beyond. Part one, teaches the ABC's via twenty-six funny and clever poems about both common and unusual fruits and vegetables. Part two, by noted food writer David Goldbeck goes "beyond the ABC's" - bringing children to a comfortable connection with these foods. This remarkable feat is accomplished through a wonderful mix of jokes, tongue twisters, unusual facts, poems, kid-friendly recipes, shopping tips and the like. **Ages 6+**

<http://www.ceres.org/press>

American Grown by Michelle Obama

In April 2009, First Lady Michelle Obama planted a kitchen garden on the White House's South Lawn. As fresh vegetables, fruit, and herbs sprouted from the ground, this White House Kitchen Garden inspired a new conversation all across the country about the food we feed our families and the impact it has on the health and well-being of our children. **All Ages**

<http://crownpublishing.com/?s=american+grown>

Botany on Your Plate by Katharine D. Barrett, Jennifer M. White, Christine Manoux

This book is an investigative science unit that introduces the world of plants through foods we eat. Explore edible roots, stems, leaves, flowers, fruits, and seeds through observation, dissection, journaling, discussion of findings, and, of course, tasting. This unit supports standards in math, language arts, nutrition, and social studies, and includes background botany information for educators. **Age 5-10**

<http://www.garden.org>

Bottle Biology, 2nd Edition by Mrill Ingram

With this imaginative ‘idea book,’ teachers, students, and parents will learn how to explore science and the environment with soda bottles and other recyclable materials in and out of the classroom. Whether you want to build a fermentation chamber to make and eat your own kimchee, grow a bottle cap garden, or build a bottle microscope exploring a mini ecosystem, these fun, imaginative, step-by-step experiments are full of surprises and enable you to “discover a world in a bottle!” **All ages**

<http://www.bottlebiology.org>

Choice, Control, & Change* by Pamela A. Koch, Angela Calabrese Barton, and Isobel R. Contento

“How can we use scientific evidence to help us maintain energy balance?” Students will learn science by studying diet and activity choices. They will engage in hands-on activities that will explore what exactly is in the food we eat, the realities we face in our current food environment, and how our body maintains a dynamic equilibrium--taking in energy through food and expending it through exercise. With their newfound knowledge and skills, students can exert more control over food choices, and make healthier changes in their eating and physical activity behaviors. **Age 12-15**

<http://blogs.tc.columbia.edu/cfe/education/nutrition-curriculum/c3/>

Farm to Table & Beyond* by Pamela A. Koch, Angela Calabrese Barton, and Isobel R. Contento

“What is the system that gets food from farm to table, and how does this system affect the environment?” Students will explore and immerse themselves in the vastly interconnected, highly technological global food system that processes, packages, and transports our food from the farm to the dinner table. Additionally, they will investigate the various degrees of food processing, the environmental effects of our reliance on this food system, and how we can minimize the food-related waste we produce. **Age 10-12**

<http://blogs.tc.columbia.edu/cfe/education/nutrition-curriculum/farm-to-table-beyond/>

The Growing Classroom—Garden-Based Science by Roberta Jaffe and Gary Appel

The main advantage of this book is the volume of thematically organized activities that it contains. Students will be able to learn about the soil, life cycles, garden creatures, and food in a variety of ways. Each activity has a simple guide indicating when and where the lesson can be taught, for whom the lesson is for, and ways of enriching the assignment. Photographs and case studies

provide context and inspiration and an extensive appendix includes how-to's, planting schedules, and student worksheets. **Age 8-12**

<http://www.lifelab.org>

Growing Food* by Pamela A. Koch, Angela Calabrese Barton, and Isobel R. Contento
“How does nature provide us with food?” As food scientists, students will investigate food webs, how we get our food from plants, and how humans produce and make their own food with agriculture. Students will learn more about human reliance on ecosystems, understand the impact human activity has on the environment, and become more informed, responsible citizens who will make wiser decisions for a sustainable future. Science, food systems, food production, natural cycles, agriculture. **Age 10-12**

<http://blogs.tc.columbia.edu/cfe/education/nutrition-curriculum/growing-food/>

**LIFE Series*

The Life (Linking Food and the Environment) Series aims to promote “scientific habits of mind through inquiry-based activities that integrate the study of food, food systems, and environmental and personal health.” Each book focuses on a single driving question, which is then broken down into several other key questions that make up the units. Lesson plans were written to meet National Science Education Standards and Benchmarks for Science Literacy. These books teach students to use a five-phase learning cycle called QuESTA (questioning, experimenting, searching, theorizing, and applying to life). All lessons have undergone classroom testing and are complete with background information, illustrations, activity worksheets, suggestions for assessment, and supplementary teacher material. Students will ultimately use scientific reasoning to explore and analyze their personal food choices, and they apply what they have learned to make healthier decisions related to food, health, and the environment. (A garden is ideal but not necessary to do these curricula.)

Growlab Activities for Growing Minds by Eve Pranis and Joy Cohen.

Growlab is a curriculum guide containing inquiry based, plant-science activities organized thematically by subject. Published by the National Gardening Association, the activities in Growlab are written to be used with growlabs, which are a light fixture / shelving unit product for growing plants indoors. Some but not all activities could be accomplished on a classroom windowsill. **All ages.**

<http://www.garden.org>

Math in the Garden by Jennifer M. White, Katharine D. Barret, Jaine Kopp

With this colorful compilation of lesson plans, students will engagingly learn and apply a variety of math skills in the garden, or in the classroom using plant materials. Calculate the ratio of shoots and roots and study various geometric shapes from fruit and vegetable snacks! Units include number, operations, algebra, measurement, geometry and pattern, and data analysis. **Age 5-15**

<http://www.gardeningwithkids.org/math-in-the-garden.html>

Math on the Menu by Jaine Kopp

With an emphasis on combinations, data organization, and statistics, this math unit engages students to help the Rosada family launch their new restaurant business. Students will help plan the menu by exploring food combinations, performing cost analyses, and setting prices on menu options. They will also practice measurement, spatial analysis, and geometry as they help the Rosadas design a new space for their restaurant. Complete with easy-to-follow directions, journal

entry assignments, and activity extensions, this unit is most unique and useful for enabling kids to practice math in a real-world, multicultural context. **Age 8-11**

<http://lhsgems.org/GEMmathmenu.html>

Project Seasons by Deborah Parrella.

Contains over 100 activities for all seasons, in order to foster an awareness and appreciation for natural resources and agriculture. Grade level, prep time, and run time information accompany each activity. Unique activities like butter-making, paper-making, and maple-sugaring may require substantial prep times and hard-to-reach materials. **Age 5-11**

http://store.shelburnefarms.org/product/179/education_resources

Seeds of Change: Learning from the Garden by Judy Mannes and Marsha Rehns

This is a hands-on project that emphasizes the rich diversity that results from cultural exchange. As children will plan, cultivate, and harvest food from the garden, they will interact and learn to respect each other and nature. Growing, cooking, and eating activities will provide opportunities for them to understand each other's similarities and differences—celebrating their own and others' cultures. **Age 8-14**

<http://www.amazon.com/Seeds-Change-Learning-Garden-Paperback/dp/0201495406>

Terrarium Habitats by Jacqueline Barber

Students will explore soil, build a terrarium habitat, and investigate what happens when they add earthworms, isopods, flowers, twigs, rocks and leftover food! This teacher's guide enables kids to bring the outdoor environment into the classroom and learn about habitats in a fun way. **Age 5-12**

<http://lhsgems.org/GEM360.html>

The Victory Garden Kids' Book by Marjorie Waters

A concise and well-illustrated guide broken into two parts: a step-by-step "How to Garden" section that covers key tasks and tools needed from spring through fall, followed by a "Kids' Crops" section that provides tips on how to grow 30 kid-friendly vegetables and ornamentals. Garden, vegetables. **Ages 3-13**

http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1837982.The_Victory_Garden_Kids_Book

HIGH SCHOOL

American Grown by Michelle Obama

In April 2009, First Lady Michelle Obama planted a kitchen garden on the White House's South Lawn. As fresh vegetables, fruit, and herbs sprouted from the ground, this White House Kitchen Garden inspired a new conversation all across the country about the food we feed our families and the impact it has on the health and well-being of our children. **All Ages**

<http://crownpublishing.com/?s=american+grown>

Cultural Uses of Plants by Gabriell DeBear Paye.

Cultural Uses of Plants challenges students to design and implement their own unique experiments starting from a reference point they can relate to: a useful plant in their own cultures. Students will learn how to test plants for their nutritional value, medicinal and other unique uses, and ecological significance. **Age 12+**

<http://www.amazon.com/Cultural-Uses-Plants-Learning-Ethnobotany/dp/0893274224>

French Fries and the Food System by Sara Coblyn.

This book offers a year-round curriculum, organized by season and designed specifically for teaching youth about agriculture and empowering them to improve our food system. Engaging debates, explorations, and games will challenge students to think more deeply and critically about various agricultural and food issues. While the curriculum is heavily farm-based, some activity extensions allow educators to easily adapt each lesson plan into different classroom settings. Useful worksheets with diagrams, illustrations, charts, and other reference tools complement the lessons. **Age 14+**

<http://www.thefoodproject.org>

Garden Genetics: Teaching with Edible Plants by Elizabeth Rice, Marianne Krasny, and Margaret E. Smith.

Teach genetics in a way that's fresh and fun. Using familiar foods, including cucumbers, corn, and tomatoes, students will engage in inquiry-based experiments to help them make real-world connections to ecology, evolution, plant biology, and social science. This curriculum is meant to be flexible and AP biology-compatible. **Age 14+**

http://www.nsta.org/store/product_detail.aspx?id=10.2505/9780873552646

WORMS

Diary of a Worm by Doreen Cronin

A funny picture book about the life of a worm, who doesn't just wiggle and dig through the earth to help the dirt breathe. He lives with his family, goes to school with his other worm friends, and tries not to eat his homework! Life's not that ordinary in this little critter's world. **Age 4-8**

<http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/book/diary-worm#cart/cleanup>

Earthworm Empire: the Living Soil by Eldon C. Weber

This cross-curricular teacher's aide focuses on a precious, valuable resource—the soil—and its connection to food and agriculture. Lessons include hands-on activities, problem solving, cooperative learning experiences, with extension ideas and references that enable teachers to adapt them for upper elementary through high school levels. **Age 9+**

<http://www.amazon.com/Earthworm-Empire-Teachers-Agriculture-Mathematics/dp/0787226327>

Earthworms Unlimited by Amy Brown

This book provides practical information for those who want to try their hand at raising and breeding earthworms. From tips on planning your project to basic equipment, storage and harvesting, it provides a complete overview of the essentials of backyard earthworm farming. And for those who want to make money, it shows how worm farming can be a profitable venture.

<http://www.amazon.com/Earthworms-Unlimited-Backyard-Earthworm-Breeding/dp/0864176317>

The Worm Café by Binet Payne

With this manual, learn how to get your school and community to undertake a mid-scale vermicomposting project. Teachers, students, and families will use a real-world model that will mentor them to be environmental stewards, addressing issues of waste. Learn about how to build a worm bed, harvest and use castings in the school garden and so much more. This is complete with worm diagrams, quizzes, charts, bulletin board materials, and letter to parents. **Grades K-12**

<http://www.amazon.com/Worm-Cafe-Mid-Scale-Vermicomposting-Lunchroom/dp/0942256115>

What Every Gardener Should Know About Earthworms by Dr. Henry Hopp

A comprehensive guide to earthworms and the benefits of having them in the garden. This book can be read in 20-30 minutes, allowing you to master the subject quickly. **For Adults**

<http://www.workman.com/products/9780882661957/>

The Wonderful World of Wigglers by Julia Hand

Through the adventures- and misadventures- of Wilma Worm and her family, children discover the rich and intricate life of worms and the world in which they live. Earthworms become more than fish bait; they become recyclers, humidifiers, plowers, and air-conditioners – all rolled into one! Filled with integrated hands-on, hearts-on activities and projects, this book will challenge children to solve real-life problems through critical and creative thinking, and explore the amazing world of earthworms.

<http://www.amazon.com/The-Wonderful-World-Wigglers-Exploring/dp/1884430007>

Worms are a Class Act! by Cori Kyle.

Combines stimulating worm activities and knowledge into a fun learning adventure for the whole classroom. The curriculum presents a worm theme for science, math, language arts, humor, physical education, art, and more!

<http://www.amazon.com/Worms-Class-Curriculum-Featuring-Can-O-Worms/dp/8968163049>

Worms Eat Our Garbage by Mary Appelhof, Mary Frances Fenton, Barbara Loss Harris

This unique curriculum for home, school, and outdoor centers brings the fascinating subject, earthworms, to the educational setting in an exciting and informative manner. Explore the worm's habitat, needs, physical description, and relationship to other living things. This book embraces a cross-curricular approach and provides worksheets and games. **Age 10+**

<http://www.amazon.com/Worms-Eat-Our-Garbage-Environment/dp/097780450X>

STARTING A SCHOOL GARDEN

Asphalt to Ecosystems by Sharon Gamson Danks

A comprehensive resource for teachers, parents, environmentalists, and designers on how to design and build creative, ecological schoolyards. Learn exciting ways on how to effectively integrate

water systems, edible landscapes, site-sensitive materials, teaching resources, play structures, outdoor furniture, and art into your schoolyard to create engaging and memorable outdoor learning spaces.

<http://www.asphalt2ecosystems.org>

How to Grow a School Garden—A Complete Guide for Parents and Teachers by Arden Bucklin-Sporer and Rachel Kathleen Pringle.

A strong resource for educating parents, teachers, administrators, and community leaders on how to start, fund, plant, and sustain a school garden to effectively reconnect students to the natural world. Planning and design strategies, detailed seasonal lesson plans, photos, and kid-friendly recipes will help establish the organizing principles for any school garden and provide guidance on how to develop a garden curriculum that can correlate with the classroom curriculum.

http://www.timberpress.com/books/how_grow_school_garden/bucklin-sporer/9781604690002

Smart by Nature: Schooling for Sustainability by Michael K. Stone/Center for Ecoliteracy

Documents a movement of educators, parents, and students who are reinventing K-12 education for the environmental challenges of the future through inspiring success stories of schools throughout the nation. These stories offer valuable lessons and exciting ways on how to have transform the school food system, sustainably design school campuses and buildings, and engage students beyond schools grounds and into the community.

<http://www.ecoliteracy.org/books/smart-nature-schooling-sustainability>

Schoolyard Mosaics by Eve Pranis and Amy Gifford. A good resource for teachers in the garden planning or pre-planning phases. It begins with a concise but informative section on the schoolyard garden planning process written specifically for teachers. The majority of the 56 page book is then short profiles of existing school gardens complete with illustrations and design intent. Without going into great detail, *Schoolyard Mosaics* covers a wide range of possible designs. Use this book as a starting point and be sure to look at the resource lists in the back.

<http://www.gardeningwithkids.org/schoolyard-mosaics.html>

NATURE

Cartoon Guide to the Environment by Larry Gonick and Alice Outwater

A witty, clever, creative graphic guide that covers many environmental science topics, including chemical cycles, life communities, food webs, agriculture, human population growth, energy sources, global warming, waste, cities, and so much more! Loaded with information and memorable illustrations.

<http://www.amazon.com/Cartoon-Guide-Environment-Larry-Gonick/dp/0062732749>

Play Lightly on the Earth: Nature Activities for Children 3 to 9 Years Old by Jacqueline Horsfall

Packed with original activities developed by the author over years as a nature educator, this resource is based on sound scientific concepts with an emphasis on creative thinking, problem-solving, and skill development – all in the guise of play.

http://www.embracingthechild.org/Booknature_horsfall.htm

Theme Studies: Butterflies Abound! by Seddon Beaty, Kelly and Irene Fountas

Based on the belief that children learn best when they are actively engaged with meaningful material, this guide offers varied learning experiences in curriculum areas such as science, language arts, math, social studies, art, and music. The thematic approach to learning in *Butterflies Abound!* offers children of all ability levels the opportunity to explore and find joy in the world of butterflies.

<http://www.amazon.com/Butterflies-Abound-Seddon-Kelly-Beaty/dp/0201815214>

Take a City Nature Walk by Jane Kirkland

Nature is all around! Learn all about urban ecology as you develop skills for finding and identifying a variety of plants and animals in the city. Complete with helpful vocabulary, inspirational quotes, and vivid photos of all the creatures one can identify in North American cities.

<http://www.amazon.com/Take-City-Nature-Walk/dp/0970975430>

REFERENCES

Beyond the Science Fair by Wendy Saul, Donna Dieckman, Charles Pearce, and Donna Neutze

A how-to manual for organizing and hosting a Kids' Inquiry Conference that's linked to your curricular planning and goals. Beginning with a snapshot of a KIC developed by the authors, *Beyond the Science Fair* guides you through the specifics of organizing and hosting the conference in your classroom, school, or district, with tips and examples. This book also includes curricular resources.

<http://www.heinemann.com/products/E00734.aspx>

Discovering the Naturalist Intelligence: Science in the Schoolyard by Jenna Glock Susan Wertz, and Maggie Meyer

When it comes to understanding multiple intelligence theory and applying it to the classroom, the naturalist intelligence is an essential piece of the puzzle. This teacher resource will help define naturalist intelligence and explore its potential, identify naturalist traits in students with an observational checklist, meet national science standards while using MI techniques in every lesson, and strengthen students' use of the naturalist intelligence with more than 30 outdoor lessons. Each lesson includes a list of intelligences used, literature entry point, and curriculum extensions, assessments that check for understanding, reflection prompts for journals, and tightly formatted directions for teachers. **Ages 6-12**

http://www.chicagoreviewpress.com/discovering-the-naturalist-intelligence-products-9781569760895.php?page_id=21

Nourishing Choices by Eva Pranis

This educational "roadmap" guides teachers, parents, health professionals, and youth leaders on how to develop and integrate a food curriculum into the classroom, cafeteria, schoolyard and at home. *Nourishing Choices* offers lots of real-world project examples of schools transforming their food culture, that will encourage others how they too can nourish healthier habits and environments for our youth.

<http://www.acornnaturalists.com/store/NOURISHING-CHOICES-Implementing-Food-Education-in-Classrooms-Cafeterias-and-Schoolyards-P6303C829.aspx>