

Education Garden Master Plan

Approximately Three Years for completion.

Our goal is to create an outdoor classroom where students can put book learning to use for “hands on” experience and practice. Many of our students come from low income families and have not been exposed to the beauties that nature can provide. Each class will be responsible to plant and maintain their own garden. Magna Elementary has 21 raised beds.

Some of the beds will include the following:

1. Desert habitat for an endangered tortoise from the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources. The Third Grade classes will provide here permanent foster care for the tortoise and will grow alfalfa and vegetables for it to eat.
2. Sixth Grade Compost Center using non-meat cafeteria leftovers to study micro-organisms and will include adding 1,000 red worms.
3. The First Grade will plant an ABC Garden using flowers to form the alphabet letters. They will chose flower names whose beginning letter corresponds to that letter of the alphabet.
4. Sense of Smell Garden. This class would invite the local blind school students to visit often and enjoy the fragrances.
5. Fourth Graders will grow only native Utah plants in our native clay.
6. Kindergarten will have three seasons represented: spring peas, summer flowers and fall pumpkins.
7. Other options for classes to choose from: butterfly, dye, native American, salad (donating to Food Bank), herbs and others.

One area will be set up for a class to sit and watch demonstrations or teacher’s instructions. Logs will be placed in a “U” shape.

Cable spools will be used for tables and cut logs for seats. These may be used for projects, seat work or lunch area.

Art projects include decorating tiles which will be fired by Cyprus High art department. Each child will be tutored one to one at Cyprus in making their own tile to be mounted on sides of planting beds.

Included here are:

1. Three sample lessons
2. Index of activities and lessons available (request from garden coordinator)
3. Garden Rules
4. Garden Schedule
5. Page divider to use in green teacher handbook/garden section.

Feel free to make suggestions to make things run more smoothly or new ideas.