

Copenhagen School Gardens

Summary of project

Copenhagen School Gardens is an association of six urban gardens located around Copenhagen, where children can participate in gardening as part of a school, day care, or leisure-time activity.

When part of a school or day care activity, children participate in a tailored programme that integrates practical gardening with theoretical learning. Schools have a choice of two programmes - the summer program running from May-October or the winter program running from November to March.



Who is involved?

The school teacher is responsible for the delivery of the theoretical learning before and after the visits to the gardens. Teachers are also encouraged to be actively involved in the visits. During the visits, gardening experts assist the teachers and help with the delivery of the sessions. Parents are also invited to visit the gardens with the children, to help maintain them during the summer holidays.

How are the children involved?

Children will visit one of the gardens at total of 15 times during the season. This equates to one visit per week, except in the school holidays. In the gardens, children are involved with soil preparation, seeding, fertilising, weeding, harvesting and cooking produce.

How is the project linked to food and farming?

The nature of the activities in the garden means that all aspects of the project are linked closely to food and farming.

How is the project linked to the school curriculum?

Each visit to the garden and the associated practical activities are linked with theoretically based teaching before and after the visits. These are linked to specific learning objectives in the school curriculum and involves subjects such as language, maths, nature and technology, home economics, arts and religion.





Positive outcomes

Children gain new knowledge about food and gardening. They also gain an enhanced understanding of their world, as well as experiencing themselves and each other in new ways. The project has proved to work particularly well with those children that sometimes struggle in the traditional classroom setting, as can contribute in new ways and develop new personal skills.

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