



Grandparents Gardening Week in the Czech Republic

Summary of project

Grandparent Gardening Week has become an annual activity organised by the Skutečně zdravá škola program in the Czech Republic. It takes place in early May every year. The goal of the event is to help schools and kindergartens to revitalise their school gardens after winter and to allow parents and grandparents to get involved in purposeful gardening activities with children.



Who is involved?

Turning a school plot into a garden or just preparing a garden for sowing and planting is much easier if parents or grandparents help. It is great fun for all generations and an opportunity to learn together in the garden. Grandparents bring, not only their experience and knowledge to the garden, but also their enthusiasm to help develop their grandchild's school.

How are the children involved?

Every school creates a “garden team”, which includes older children or pupils, teachers, parents and also the school cooks. It's the pupils' role to help with organising the event. They talk to the school cooks to find out what herbs to be planted, then select the best place in the garden to grow it. Pupils also select suitable vegetables to be sown, that can then be used in the cooking classes. Pupils are also involved in preparing and serving snacks and refreshments to the event guests.



How is the project linked to food and farming?

Children learn the basic rules and skills of food growing. They learn first-hand how to sow seeds, take care of the seedlings, maintain the garden during all seasons and enjoy the harvest.

Playing and learning in the school garden has many positive influences on children. Movement in the garden increases children's mental and physical resilience. Being in the outdoor space also provides a healthy level





FIELD TO SCHOOL

CASE STUDY

of managed risk that supports the development of a range of skills and abilities, pupil's motor skills, creativity and self-confidence.

How is the project linked to the school curriculum?

There is a learning guide on garden planning and maintenance available for teachers. Teachers can use the gardening event as an educational activity. Together with pupils they can create a garden plan and allocate plots and beds for classes to take care of.



Through its development, it is hoped that the garden will become a communal place, where pupils are involved in decision making and thus learn the art of discussion. In the garden, pupils learn about the laws of nature and the food chain and subjects such as these can be linked to science.

Positive outcomes

In the last two years more than 30 schools participated in the event with great success and positive responses from all parties involved. This type of intergenerational gardening work helps to strengthen the community, as the garden becomes a meeting place for children, parents and grandparents.





**FIELD
TO SCHOOL**

CASE STUDY



Týden s (pra)rodiči na školní zahradě

**Skutečně
zdravá škola**

Od 6. do 10. května 2019

www.skutecnezdravaskola.cz

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

