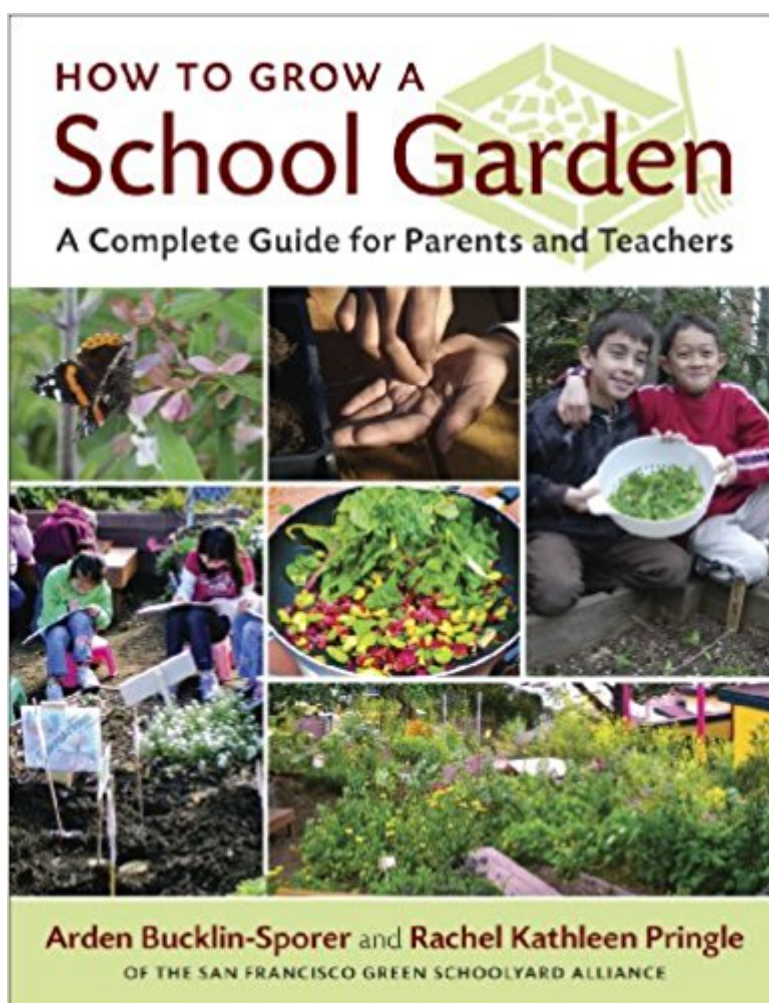


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# How To Grow A School Garden: A Complete Guide For Parents And Teachers



## Synopsis

A school garden is a tremendously valuable tool to help young people turn book knowledge into real experience. This book is a must-have resource for anyone considering embarking on a youth gardening adventure. "Mike Metallo, President, National Gardening Association In this groundbreaking resource, two school garden pioneers offer parents, teachers, and school administrators everything they need to know to build school gardens and to develop the programs that support them. "Today both schools and parents have a unique opportunity "and an increasing responsibility "to cultivate an awareness of our finite resources, to reinforce values of environmental stewardship, to help students understand concepts of nutrition and health, and to connect children to the natural world. What better way to do this than by engaging young people, their families, and teachers in the wondrous outdoor classroom that is their very own school garden? It's all here: developing the concept, planning, fund-raising, organizing, designing the space, preparing the site, working with parents and schools, teaching in the garden, planting, harvesting, and even cooking, with kid-friendly recipes and year-round activities. Packed with strategies, to-do lists, sample letters, detailed lesson plans, and tricks of the trade from decades of experience developing school garden programs for grades K-8, this hands-on approach will make school garden projects accessible, inexpensive, and sustainable.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Bucklin-Sporer and Pringle, gardeners and educators, bring extensive personal experience and skill

sets to this excellent manual for teachers and parents interested in creating school gardens. With step-by-step tasks, advice on everything from raising funds to garden designs, materials lists, and lesson plans that connect garden activities to curriculums and meeting school standards, this unique guide paves the way for getting a garden off the ground, so to speak, in a yearlong overview that covers ideas for building planting beds, delicious recipes, and composting. The bounty of information is presented in ways that will generate excitement and provide inspiration for teachers and their volunteer partners. Bucklin-Sporer and Pringle are also comprehensive in their approach to providing much needed guidance for communities and schools that have already embarked on creating school gardens, yet require assistance in moving forward. And for those new to the concept, the authors will awaken readers to the critical aspects of teaching children organic-gardening principles, the delights and solace of the gardening experience, and how to nurture a child's understanding of ecology. --Alice Joyce

• "This book will be a well-thumbed resource in many school and public libraries. . . . Strongly recommended." • "Library Journal" • "This is my bible on starting a school garden." • "Huffington Post" • "Easy-to-read, informative, and visually pleasing" • "any parent or teacher considering a school garden will find a wealth of information in this book." • "American Gardener" • "[Introduces] the joys and benefits of digging in the dirt to kids who might not otherwise get the chance." • "Chicago Tribune" • "This terrific guide is filled with detailed, practical guidelines for organizing and running a school garden." • "SciTech Book News" • "Offers all the instruction necessary to plan for and maintain a school garden." • "Bookwatch" • "This book is a treasure trove of good advice and innovative ideas. From the usual "what to grow" and "how to garden" to using the garden as a teaching tool and creative starting point. . . . Fabulous resource for schools but also families who want to get more out of their patch of land." • "San Francisco Chronicle" • "The bounty of information is presented in ways that will generate excitement and provide inspiration. [An] excellent manual for teachers and parents." • "CoffeeMom" • "Fabulous resource for schools but also families who want to get more out of their patch of land." • "WhipUp.net" • "A practical, schematic guide to getting a school garden off the ground, with well-written advice for getting buy-in from a school's administration, how to fundraise effectively, and even how to organize volunteers on the first day of garden-breaking." • "Grist" • "As a former early childhood educator and one who gardened with her students, let me say that I wish this book would have existed when I was in the classroom. How to Grow a School Garden takes away the guesswork and provides tip after tip from two women who have many ears

of school garden experience under their beltsâ [This book is a must-read for anyone (parent or teachers) interested in bringing gardens to their own school community.â • â "Rocky Mountain Land Library

I am SO HAPPY that I purchased this book!! I am a mom of two elementary school children and we (as a family) are diving into helping with our environmental center at our school. This book has helped to get things moving along & has helped to organize ideas that can be passed to our committee from year to year. It gives a solid section on understanding the schools as well as the students needs. Another section explains very important balance of cultivating volunteers (not just the ground). It has very down to earth writing; great examples and a list of resources that I am finding indispensable. I am purchasing a full print copy to be added to our library within our school as well. Definitely worth the price and the time to read!

I found this book, from beginning to end, easily accessible. I literally could not put it down and didn't, until I finished. Then I went back and tagged topics I wanted to refer back to. Of those, chapter 5 - 6 - 7 - 8 & 9! Everything! I loved Kindergarten Scope and Sequence, Connecting the garden to the curriculum, the section on journaling, managing the outdoor classroom, the weekly schedule, all the wonderful activity ideas. In fact, flipping through the book again right now to review what I marked, makes me want to re-read it again. Since reading this book, my time in the garden with our students has been more productive, organized and fun!

This is a great resource that takes you step by step through the creation of a garden, from red tape to fundraising to actually planting. It also emphasizes how to build community, parent, teacher, and student support and buy-in. It was fun and easy to read. Loved it!

This book is exactly what I was looking for to give our people associated curriculum with hands on info to get the program up and running. Science combined with hands on to teach young children all the way up their parents that this is the time to take control of what they eat and why. Growing can be fun, worthwhile and a joy!

Pretty excellent. I have been interested in starting a school garden at my son's school for a while. I'm glad I waited to read this book before getting started. I now have a clear plan for moving forward.

If you're starting a school garden get your hands on this book. The authors are in California so the climate is very different than what we deal with in the Midwest but the information and resources are helpful no matter where you put your shovel in the ground.

I gave this as a gift to a 1st Grade teacher. The kids are planting seeds in a garden this year!

This book gave me anything I would need to begin planning my own school garden, including motivation!

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