



Plant Choices for School Gardens

Good Plants for Local School Gardens

	Harvest in FALL (after Labor Day)		Harvest in SPRING (before June 15)	
Fruit	Strawberries Raspberries Grapes Apples	Pears Figs Plums Watermelon	Strawberries Raspberries Rhubarb	
Veggies	Radishes Sweet corn or popcorn Potatoes Winter squash Pumpkins Parsnips Carrots Large tomatoes	Bell peppers Large eggplants Green beans Large cucumbers Sunchokes Sunflowers Large onions	Radishes Lettuce Spinach Chard Kale Collards	Peas Broccoli Cabbage Cauliflower Scallions
Herbs	Basil Parsley Oregano Thyme	Tarragon Chives Rosemary Sage	Cilantro Dill Parsley Oregano Thyme	Tarragon Chives Rosemary Sage
Crafts	Straw flowers Gourds Lavender			

PLAN your garden with these considerations

Plants that need a lot of space

- Corn should be grown in a block of at least 20 square feet for pollination to occur properly
- Watermelons vines will sprawl 5 feet or more off the beds
- Winter squash vines will sprawl 5 feet or more off the beds
- Pumpkin vines will sprawl 5 feet or more off the beds
- Gourd vines will sprawl 5 feet or more off the beds, or can climb fence

Plants that need support

- Grapes
- Raspberries
- Peas
- Pole beans
- Cucumbers
- Large tomatoes
- Large eggplants
- Bell peppers

Plants that need extra summer care

- Potatoes need to be hilled
- Green beans need to be harvested all summer or they stop producing

CHOOSE food plants that:

- Kids like to eat
- Can be planted during the school year
- Can be harvested during the school year
- Do not require a lot of summertime care

AVOID these plants:

- Mint (or grow in container)
- Comfrey
- Garlic mustard (*Alliaria petiolata*)
- English ivy
- Other plants listed as invasive by the Emerald Chapter of Native Plant Society of Oregon (www.emeraldnpso.org/inv_ornmtnls.html)