This packet is a complete guide to planting your own Schoolyard Edible Garden.

There are two designs for a garden with two raised planting beds. **Garden One** is a two phase plan which starts in the fall and carries over to spring. **Garden Two** is a one phase plan for spring which students can plant and harvest in the same season.

Check the class calendar at [www.atlantabotanicalgarden.org](http://www.atlantabotanicalgarden.org) for upcoming opportunities to learn more about growing your own food.

**Contents**

**Garden One**
- Fall Plant Layout 2
- Fall Plant Details 3
- Spring Plant Layout 4
- Spring Plant Details 5

**Garden Two**
- Plant Layout 6
- Details 7

**Monthly Garden Activities** 8-9

**Resources for Seeds and Plants** 10
## Garden One: Fall Plant Layout

**September – December**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2 ft x 8 ft Raised Beds</th>
<th>Kale ‘Dinosaur’</th>
<th>Beet ‘Chioggia’</th>
<th>Pea ‘Snow Sweet’</th>
<th>Swiss Chard ‘5 Color Silverbeet’</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Radish ‘Easter Egg’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cilantro</th>
<th>Garlic</th>
<th>Mustard ‘Japanese Red’</th>
<th>Lettuce ‘Black Seeded Simpson’</th>
<th>Parsley ‘Giant from Italy’</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Schoolyard Edible Gardens

Garden One: Fall Details

This plan has two different planting times: one in the fall and one in the early spring. Some of the fall plants will be harvested before the first winter frost and some will last through the spring. In the spaces left from the fall harvest, you will plant more seedlings in the spring for a spring harvest.

Planting and Harvesting:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant</th>
<th>Cultivar</th>
<th>Spacing</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Direct Seed or Transplant</th>
<th>When To Harvest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kale</td>
<td>‘Dinosaur’</td>
<td>6”</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Either</td>
<td>As Needed until May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swiss Chard</td>
<td>‘Five Color Silverbeet’</td>
<td>6”</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Either</td>
<td>Before Frost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beet</td>
<td>‘Chioggia’</td>
<td>4”</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Direct Seed</td>
<td>Before Frost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radish</td>
<td>‘Easter Egg’</td>
<td>4”</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Direct Seed</td>
<td>Before Frost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pea</td>
<td>‘Snow Sweet’</td>
<td>4”</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Either</td>
<td>Before Frost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cilantro</td>
<td></td>
<td>4”</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Direct Seed</td>
<td>As Needed until May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garlic</td>
<td></td>
<td>4”</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Direct Seed</td>
<td>May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mustard</td>
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<td>8</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lettuce</td>
<td>‘Black Seeded Simpson’</td>
<td>6”</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>Before Frost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parsley</td>
<td>‘Giant from Italy’</td>
<td>4”</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Either</td>
<td>As Needed until May</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Special Notes:

• Plants harvested “as needed until May” and in “May” are cold hardy and will survive through winter freezes in Georgia.

• All plants can be direct seeded. For plants listed as either I would recommend starting the seeds mid-August in pots with sterile media in a partly shaded area. Then in mid-September transplant those plants into the garden.

• It is important to directly seed root vegetables. Mix the radish and beet seeds together before sowing. It’s OK to plant the seeds thickly. Once they start to grow, go through and pull out extra seedlings so that the amount of space in between each plant is 4 inches (great measuring activity!).

• The peas need a support system. I recommend 3.5 foot bamboo stakes or other sturdy sticks sunk 6 inches into the ground at the beginning and end of each pea row. Then string jute rope or some other string horizontally at half foot intervals between the two poles.
Garden One: Spring Plant Layout

March – May
(Continuation of Fall Plant Layout)

2 ft x 8 ft Raised Beds

Kale ‘Dinosaur’
(Sept)

Carrot ‘Danvers’
Radish ‘Easter Egg’

Lettuce
‘Black Seeded Simpson’

Cauliflower
‘Violet Queen’

Cilantro
(Sept)

Garlic
(Sept)

Cabbage
‘Mammoth Red Rock’

Cauliflower
‘Cheddar’

Parsley
‘Giant from Italy’
(Sept)
Schoolyard Edible Gardens

Garden One: Spring Details

Planting and Harvesting:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant</th>
<th>Cultivar</th>
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<th>Quantity</th>
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<th>When To Harvest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kale</td>
<td>‘Dinosaur’</td>
<td>6”</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Already planted in Sept</td>
<td>As Needed until May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carrots</td>
<td>‘Danvers’</td>
<td>4”</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Direct Seed</td>
<td>May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radish</td>
<td>‘Easter Egg’</td>
<td>4”</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Direct Seed</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lettuce</td>
<td>‘Black Seeded Simpson’</td>
<td>6”</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Either</td>
<td>As Needed until May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cauliflower</td>
<td>‘Violet Queen’</td>
<td>4”</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Transplant</td>
<td>May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cilantro</td>
<td></td>
<td>4”</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Already planted in Sept</td>
<td>As Needed until May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garlic</td>
<td></td>
<td>4”</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Already planted in Sept</td>
<td>May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabbage</td>
<td>‘Mammoth Red Rock”</td>
<td>6”</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Transplant</td>
<td>May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cauliflower</td>
<td>‘Cheddar’</td>
<td>6”</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Transplant</td>
<td>May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parsley</td>
<td>‘Giant from Italy’</td>
<td>4”</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Already planted in Sept</td>
<td>As Needed until May</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Special Notes:

• For the plants that should be planted as transplants, start the seed indoors in sterile media in mid-January. Then, as temperatures warm up towards the beginning of March, gradually harden off the plants outside and then plant in the ground in mid-March. To harden off the plants, place them outside in part shade for a couple of hours during the day, then bring them in at night. The next day leave them out a little longer in brighter light. Continue exposing them to more and more outdoor temperatures and light until they can stay out all the time. This usually takes around a week. If these plants are not started at transplants, but are directly sown in March, they will not have enough time to produce a vegetable before the end of school year.

• It is important to directly seed root vegetables. Mix the radish and carrot seeds together before sowing. It’s OK to plant the seeds thickly. Once they start to grow, go through and pull out extra seedlings so that the amount of space in between each plant is 4 inches (great measuring activity!).
Schoolyard Edible Gardens

Garden Two: Plant Layout

March – May

2 ft x 8 ft Raised Beds

Red Mustard

Carrot ‘Danvers’

Radish ‘Easter Egg’

Pea ‘Snow Sweet’

Swiss Chard ‘5 Color Silverbeet’

Cilantro

Lettuce ‘Black Seeded Simpson’

Beet ‘Chioggia’

Radish ‘Plum Purple’

Cauliflower ‘Cheddar’

Parsley ‘Giant from Italy’
Schoolyard Edible Gardens

Garden Two: Details

This design is for a spring garden only, which means the plants can be harvested and enjoyed before the end of the school year!

Planting and Harvesting:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant</th>
<th>Cultivar</th>
<th>Spacing</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Direct Seed or Transplant</th>
<th>When To Harvest</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mustard</td>
<td>‘Japanese Red’</td>
<td>6”</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Transplant</td>
<td>As Needed until May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carrot</td>
<td>‘Danvers’</td>
<td>4”</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Direct Seed</td>
<td>May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pea</td>
<td>‘Snow Sweet’</td>
<td>4”</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Transplant</td>
<td>As Needed until May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swiss Chard</td>
<td>Five Color Silverbeet’</td>
<td>6”</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Transplant</td>
<td>As Needed until May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cilantro</td>
<td></td>
<td>4”</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Transplant</td>
<td>As Needed until May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lettuce</td>
<td>‘Black Seeded Simpson’</td>
<td>6”</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Either</td>
<td>As Needed until May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beet</td>
<td>‘Chioggia’</td>
<td>4”</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Direct Seed</td>
<td>End of May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radish</td>
<td>‘Plum Purple’</td>
<td>4”</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>Direct Seed</td>
<td>As Needed until May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cauliflower</td>
<td>‘Cheddar’</td>
<td>6”</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Transplant</td>
<td>May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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Schoolyard Edible Gardens

Monthly Garden Activities

The following pages contain a list of suggested activities for each month in your edible garden. Enjoy your year of plenty!

January
• Water everything well if a hard freeze is expected.
• Prune fruit trees (except for peach) and vines.
• Start early-spring vegetable seeds (broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage and kohlrabi) indoors.

February
• Order spring seeds (lettuce, nasturtiums, swiss chard, mustard, carrots, beets and turnips) so that they can be directly seeded into the ground in March.
• Towards the end of the month, start long maturing, warm-season annual seeds (tomato, pepper and eggplant) indoors.

March
• Plant spring vegetable transplants (broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, kohlrabi) outdoors. If you are planting transplants from seeds started in January, gently harden them off by placing them outside in part shade for a couple of hours during the first day. Gradually expose them to more and more outdoor temperatures and light until they can stay out all the time. This takes about a week.
• Directly sow lettuce, nasturtium, swiss chard, mustard, carrot, beet and turnip seeds into the soil.
• Start seeds of warm-season annuals (cucumber, melons, squash and beans) indoors.
• Regularly scout for pests, such as aphids, and diseases to address quickly.
• Regularly remove weeds.

April
• After the threat of frost, plant warm season vegetables (tomato, pepper, eggplant, cucumber, melon, squash and beans) outdoors. The frost free date in Atlanta is usually April 15, but check your weather forecast to ensure warm weather.
• Regularly scout for pests, such as aphids, cabbage looper caterpillars and diseases.
• Regularly remove weeds.
• Harvest spring vegetables as needed.

May
• Harvest spring vegetables as needed.
• Fertilize summer vegetables every 2-4 weeks with a balanced, water-soluble fertilizer such as organic fish emulsion and liquid kelp.
• Regularly scout for pests such as the squash vine borer caterpillar, Mexican bean beetles, cucumber beetles, squash beetle and diseases such as powdery mildew to address quickly.
• Regularly remove weeds.
Schoolyard Edible Gardens

June
• Harvest vegetables and herbs on a regular basis for continued production.
• Continue fertilizing every 2-4 weeks.
• Water vegetables regularly and make sure they get 1 inch of water per week.
• Regularly scout for pests and diseases to address quickly.
• Regularly remove weeds.

July
• Cut back herbs like basil, oregano, and mint by one-third to promote branching.
• Continue fertilizing and watering regularly.
• Regularly scout for pests and diseases to address quickly.
• Regularly remove weeds.

August
• Deeply water fruit trees that are in production.
• Harvest vegetables on a regular basis for continued production.
• Regularly scout for pests and diseases to address quickly.
• Regularly remove weeds.
• Start cool season vegetable seedlings (broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, peas, lettuce, kale, beets, turnips and swiss chard) outdoors in part sun.

September
• Harvest the last tomatoes, peppers, etc.
• Mid-September remove summer veggies, amend and till for cool season crops.
• Plant cool season vegetable transplants.

October
• Water new vegetables regularly.
• Fertilize fall vegetables every 2-4 weeks.
• Harvest vegetables as they mature.

November
• Continue regular fertilizing and make sure vegetables are getting 1 inch of water per week.
• Harvest vegetables as they mature.

December
• Plan garden renovations and new planting beds for next year.
• Water everything well if a hard freeze is expected.
Schoolyard Edible Gardens

Resources for Seeds:

Seeds of Change
www.seedsofchange.com

Johnny’s Seeds
www.johnnyseeds.com

Seed Savers Exchange
www.seedsavers.org

Fedco
www.fedcoseeds.com

Resources for Plants:

Oakhurst Community Garden Project
www.oakhurstgarden.org

Farmer D’s Organics
www.farmerd.com

Hastings
www.hastingsgardencenter.com

Habershams
www.habershamgardens.com