



**MASSACHUSETTS
FARM TO SCHOOL**

Farm to PreK Gardens That Engage Young Children



MASS. FARM TO SCHOOL OVERVIEW

Mass. Farm to School strengthens local farms and fisheries and promotes healthy communities by increasing local food purchasing and education at schools.

Get involved through our:

- Professional learning opportunities
- Networking
- Policy/Advocacy
- Communications



Webinar Overview

1. MFTS Info
2. Who am I?
3. Who are you?
4. Garden Design
5. Garden Activity Ideas
6. Tips and Tricks
7. Questions?



Who am I?



Growing minds
Cultivating connections

- Over 20 years experience
- Built over 2 dozen educational gardens
- Currently work with 6 elementary schools

www.schoolsprouts.org

hope@schoolsprouts.org

Who are you?

Please share...

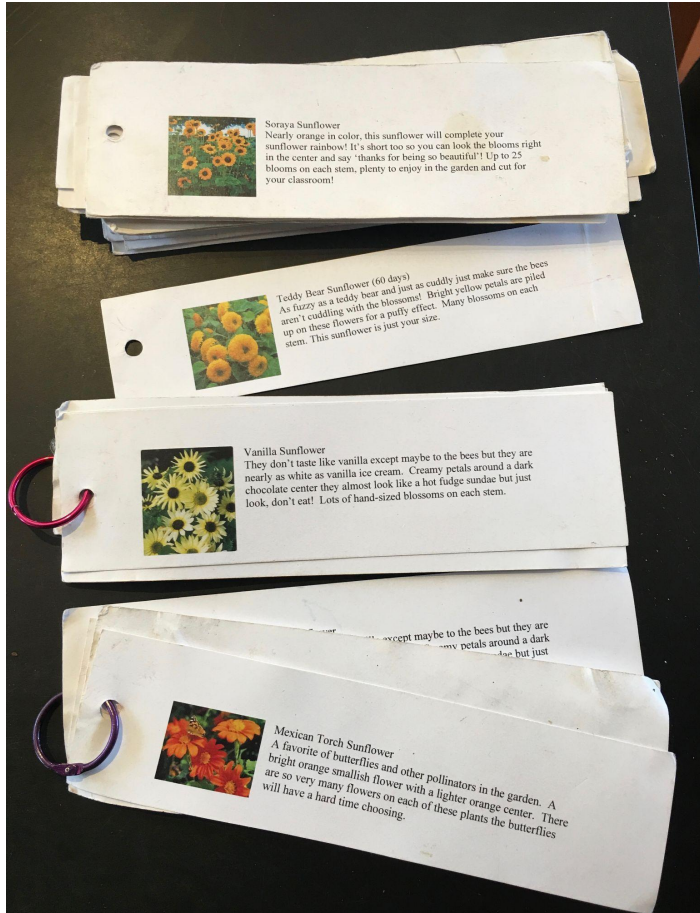
- Name
- School/organization/
affiliation
- Role - parent,
teacher, community
member
- What are you hoping
to learn?



Garden Design for Young Learners



Garden Activity Ideas: Seed selection



- Sunflowers
 - Familiar
 - Impressive
 - Large seeded
- Cucumbers
 - Large seeded
 - Pickling potential
- Peas
 - Easy early season
 - Large seeded
- Potatoes
 - Familiar
 - Easy to hold
 - Fun to dig for

Garden Activity Ideas: Herbs



- Uses 5 senses
- Have many uses
- Fun to eat and smell
- Great for successive harvests
- Easy to dry and make into tea/herb sachets

Garden Activity Ideas: Tool use



- Offers increasing levels of responsibility
- Many age appropriate options
- Start with hands

Tips and Tricks

- Seating areas
- Audible cues
- Aim for uniformity in tools
- Forget about perfection
- Seed poking vs broadcasting
- Seeds vs transplanting
- Favor hardy species (beans, peas, marigolds, sunflowers)
- Use colors as cues
- Big work
- Minimize hazards
- Use grown-ups

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES & LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

- Mass. Farm to School:
www.massfarmtoschool.org -
Subscribe to our newsletter and stay up to date on upcoming webinars and other professional learning opportunities
- School Sprouts:
www.schoolsprouts.org
- KidsGardening:
www.kidsgardening.org

