



YES! Project Guide

POLLINATOR GARDEN

Category: Land Restoration and Gardening

Approximate Cost: \$1000-\$1500

Desired Results

Project Goal: To design, fund, and implement a pollinator garden.

UNDERSTANDINGS

Students will understand

- Understand current issues facing pollinators today
- Restore pollinators to our communities
- Educating others about the importance of pollinators
- Create a pollinator garden

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

Students will learn

- Which pollinators can we influence in our community?
- How can you support pollinators in our community?
- What does a pollinator garden look like?
- How much does it cost to create a pollinator garden?
- How do you fund a pollinator garden?
- Who needs to be involved to plant a pollinator garden?
- How do you educate the community/school on the importance of pollinator gardens?

Knowledge and Skills Acquisition

Students will know ...

- Importance of pollinators
- Issues affecting pollinators
- Interventions for protecting pollinators
- How to design a pollinator garden
- How to budget and fund a pollinator garden
- How to plant and install a pollinator garden
- How to communicate with the District/Community throughout process

Students will understand ...

- Pollinators and environmental issues surrounding pollinators
- Horticulture of pollinator plants and design of garden
- Fundraising, grant writing and/or donations for funding a pollinator garden
- Community relationships and networking
- Installing a garden
- Maintenance and upkeep of garden

Data

Impact Evidence

Qualitative (observations and descriptive data):

- District interest in starting pollinator gardens at each school
- Expand to vegetable gardens - Food to Cafeteria Initiative
- Green Team established with district professionals to expand
- Increased pollinators to area
- “Curb appeal” of school increased with addition of garden

Quantitative (numerical data):

- Number of pollinator plants
- Number of shrubs
- Number of trees
- Budget breakdown
- Pollinators numbers before and after installation

Timeline - Approx. 1 School Calendar Year

- **Fall:** Research on pollinators, establish pollinator friendly plants, create relationships with district and community, brainstorm ideas for funding garden
- **Winter:** Raise money (fundraisers, grant writing, donations), create garden designs, meet with community/school resources to present plan
- **Spring:** Partner with landscaping/nurseries for resources/feedback/donations (do volunteer work if able), final design of garden, finalize budget, final permissions, plan for implementation
- **Fall:** Plant Garden

Process

1. Background information (pollinators, gardens, plants, initial data)
2. Funding Plan
3. Design Plan
4. Project Proposal to district/community
5. Obtain funding
6. Finalize design plan
7. Final permissions
8. Gather all materials/supplies
9. Implement garden and maintenance

Resources and Other Tips

University of Minnesota: <http://www.extension.umn.edu/garden/yard-garden/flowers-for-pollinators/>

Minnesota Zoo: <http://mnzoo.org/conservation/act-wildlife/plant-pollinators/>

Minnesota DNR: <http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/pollinators/index.html>

Maintenance: Make a plan for yearly maintenance

Tips/Resources: Master Gardeners, Landscaping Businesses, Home Improvement Stores

(Grants) McKnight Foundation, SHIP, U of M Extension Services

(Donations) Local nurseries (volunteer work for donations)