

WORLD GARDEN - Aligning to UN's Sustainable Development Goals

Budding Little Gardeners is an educational project. The aim of this project is to educate students on four key aspects of sustainable development:

1. **Food security** - building a self-sufficient culture through learning about local edible plants (and exploring cultures through local cuisines);
2. **Transition towards Net Zero** - understanding the impact of carbon miles and fostering the 'think global, buy local' mindset, and supporting local farmers;
3. **Biodiversity** - safeguarding the survival of the planet's ecosystem and mitigating climate change (via growing bee-friendly plants);
4. **Soil health** - healing the earth through agricultural practices such as composting and also exploring the potential benefits of no-dig gardening.

In brief, there are three seasonal syllabuses:

1. Autumn/winter - collecting seeds, preparing the flower beds, composting and growing vegetables from old (eg spring onions, celery and chillis);
2. Spring - planning and planting season (plants chosen according to the sun-index of the flower beds);
3. Summer - harvesting and cooking with the harvest (culture through cuisine).

For schools in Asia (where there is only one season), the syllabus will focus on growing indigenous plants, their traditional uses and local cuisines. A booklet will be produced to accompany the syllabus, containing illustrations of the plants, which includes:

1. *Terung dayak* (*olanum ferox* Linn) - plant of the Sarawak's indigenous people, and a traditional food from generation to generation.
2. *Sayur manis* (*Sauropus androgynus*) - is a leafy, nutritious vegetable that appears frequently in local cuisines;
3. *Kesum* (*Persicaria odorata*) - also known as Vietnamese coriander, this plant purportedly has many medicinal benefits;
4. *Sawi* (*brassicca*) - commonly known as choy sum and found in supermarkets all over the world;
5. *Pandan* (*Pandanus amaryllifolius*) - Asian vanilla, much used for desserts or pot pourri;
6. Tapioca;
7. Sweet potatoes;
8. Lemon grass.

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