

Farmstand Business Curriculum



Lesson 8: Agriculture Science

GROW^{NYC}



Vegetable and Herb Spring Planting Calendar

(DS) = Direct Seed (T) = Transplant	Start dates are the earliest dates recommended. It's fine to plant later but make sure there is enough time in the school year to harvest! Based on April 10th last frost date for NYC. Germination time varies depending on soil temperature.			This is an approximation that is based on optimal growing conditions, and will vary according to specific varieties, so check your seed packet for more details! If your garden is partially shaded, your plants will grow more slowly. Some crops can be harvested before they are fully matured and are even considered a delicacy when harvested young!		
Crop	Start Indoors	Germination (Days)	Transplant Outdoors	Direct Seed Outdoors	Days to Maturity	Harvest Date
Arugula (DS)	---	4 to 8	---	March 5	38	April 20
Basil (DS)	---	4 to 10	---	April 15	70	July 4
Basil (T)	March 6	4 to 10	April 17	---	60	June 16
Bean (Bush) (DS)	---	7 to 10	---	April 10	50	June 9
Bean (Pole) (DS)	---	5 to 10	---	April 10	50	June 9
Beet (DS)	---	5 to 8, or up to 2-3 weeks	---	March 27	55	June 4
Beet (T)	February 20	5 to 8	March 27	---	55	May 21
Broccoli (DS)	---	4 to 7	---	March 27	60	June 2
Broccoli (T)	February 20	7 to 14	March 27	---	60	May 26
Broccoli Raab (DS)	---	4 to 7	---	March 27	60	June 2

Warm-up

Make a list of everything you might need to grow one of the crops on *Vegetable and Herb Spring Planter Calendar*.

Where do we get all of these resources?

Are there certain things plants need to grow that we can use for “free” from our community, school, or living environment?



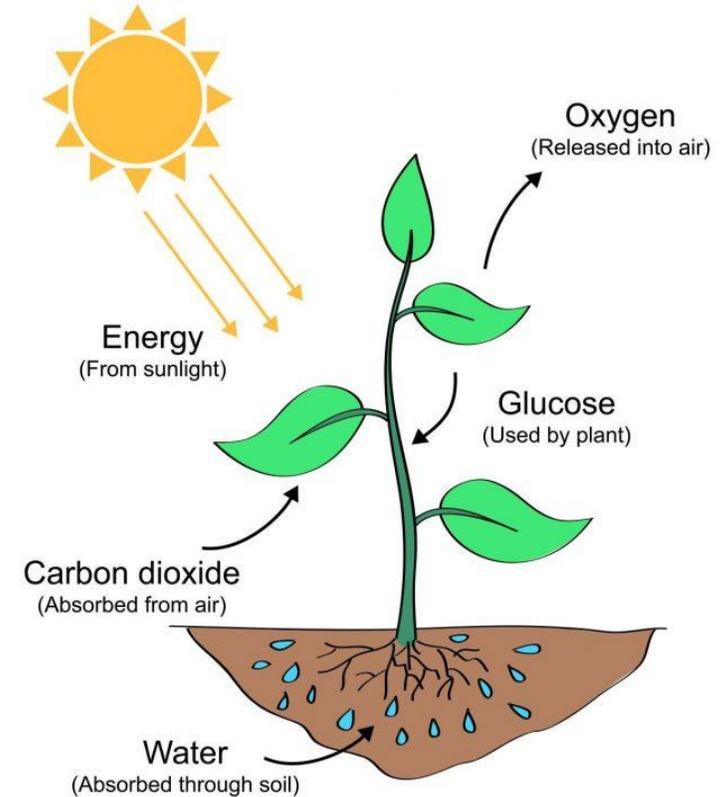
Lesson Outline

- What do plants need to grow?
- How does this change with different growing climates? For NYC?
- What is agriculture science?



What do plants need to grow?

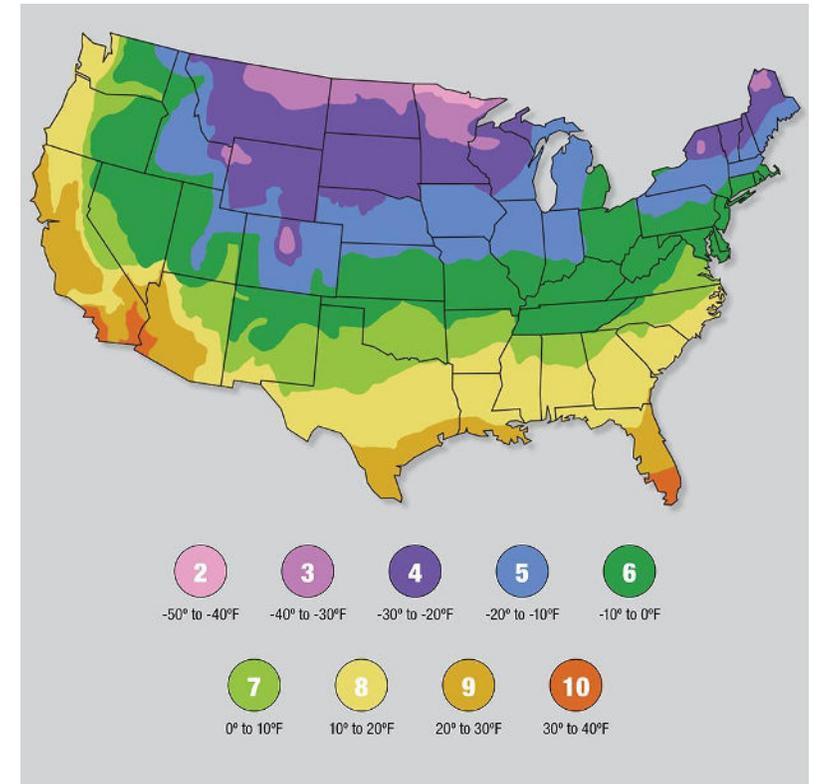
- Light
- Air
- Water
- Nutrition
- Space to live and grow
- Optimal temperature



How does this change with different growing climates? For NYC?

Planting/Hardiness Zones

- An easy way to understand which crops to plant and when to plant
- Tells us the temperature of the specific zone
- New York's zone ranges from 3a to 7b meaning there is a wide variety of plants that can be grown!



What is needed to grow food?

Seeds

- Heritage/Heirloom seeds have been passed down for generations
- Accessing seeds should reflect community demographics, current crop plan, biodiverse species and animals, sustainability



What is needed to grow food?

Access to plants

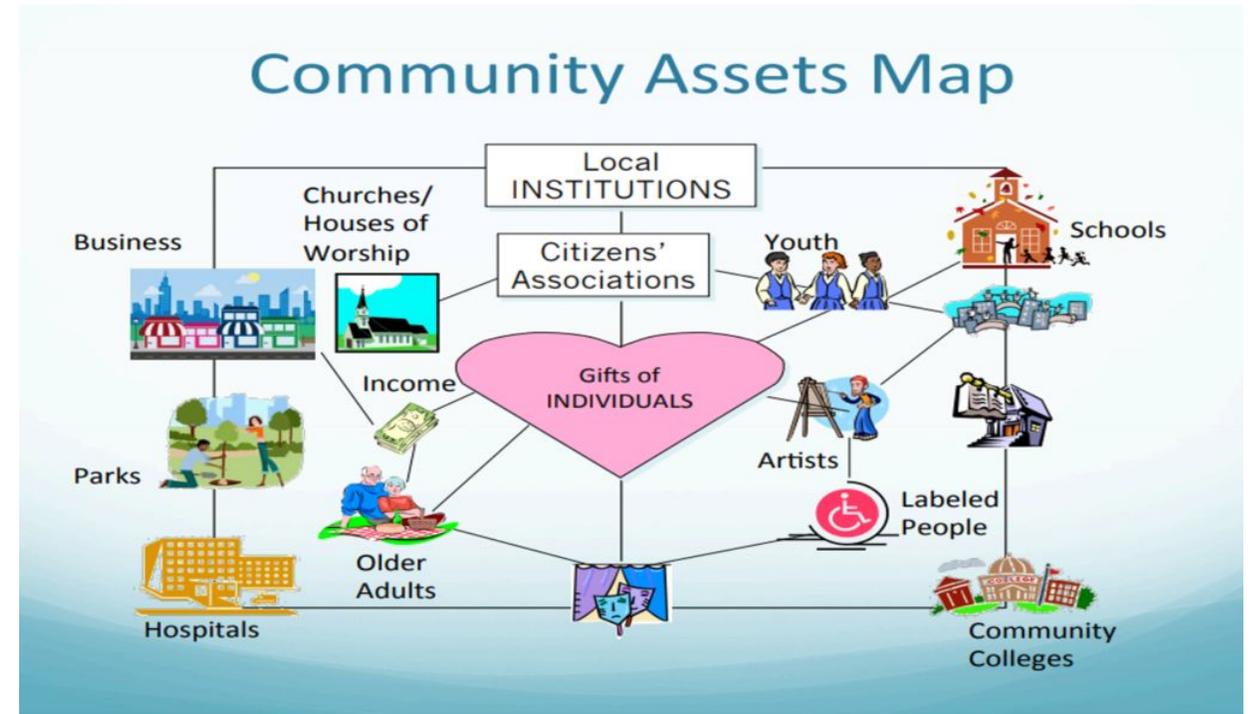
- Connect with local growers who grow seedlings for production or commercial use
- Raise your own seedling
- Source free seedlings from charity organizations, grocers, nurseries, flower shops etc.



What is needed to grow food?

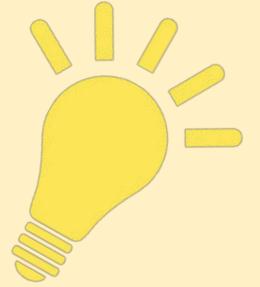
Community Resources

- Money is a key resource
- Asset Mapping to determine resources:
 - Skills
 - Time
 - Network
 - Free sourced materials
 - People power



Activity One: Mind Map our Community





1. What makes our community strong?
2. How might these assets/our community support us in growing food and/or getting started with our farm business?

Activity Two: Getting Started



Reflection Questions:

Which growing and food access point options feel most doable for your school and classroom communities?

What are some valuable next steps you can take to get started as a classroom group?



Questions?

