



School Garden Monthly Timeline

from Plymouth Community Ed and Rec

Month	What should and could be done?	
	Should be done - Who?	Ideas to explore the gardens
Jan	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Determine plants to be planted in spring - Carrie, Tracy, teachers, volunteers- If help is wanted getting seeds and plants, please send seed and plant needs/wants to Carrie - teachers- If new beds are being created, plan for new beds. Connect with facilities director and secure wood and soil donations/funding.- Plan for re-wilding projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Go outside and see what is happening in the garden. Ex. Are seeds from the garden being eaten, by whom?- Collect snow and do snow experiments. Ex. Measure volume of snow vs snowmelt. <p><u>Ideas for any month!</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Feed the birds.- Plant a windowsill garden.- Read garden books.- Start a worm farm, or have Carrie bring hers in to your classroom.- Classes can visit the FSAC to see all that is growing there.- Measure the length of kids' shadows and explore the angle of the sun through the seasons.

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Feb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Start slow-to-germinate seeds like certain herbs in late February - Carrie, Tracy, teachers - If a mild February, look for growth of overwintered spinach - Carrie, Tracy, teachers - If help is needed with starting seeds, inform Carrie and arrange what seeds - teachers - If purchasing from County Tree and Shrub sale, orders must be finalized by Feb 24) - school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - See January ideas - What happens in the garden as the snow melts? - Test the soil temperature - Prune fruit trees and shrubs - Construct trellises
Mar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Start garden plants- Carrie, Tracy, classes who want to help - Start marigolds from HZ seeds - Tracy - Build compost bins for each elementary school - ?? - Recruit volunteers – teachers, Carrie 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Test the soil temperature. - Take soil samples and measure pH, P and K. - As soon as snow is gone and things warm up a bit, consider planting spinach and turn compost - Record germination rates, and measure growth rates - Spread compost – classes - Make green eggs and ham with spinach.

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Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Build any new garden boxes - school - Design each bed - teachers, students, Carrie, Tracy - Recruit volunteers for summer garden care – teachers, Carrie 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Direct seed short season crops like arugula, lettuce, spinach, radishes, short season kohlrabi. - Transplant kale, chard, onions, parsley. - Turn over any cover crops that are growing - Turn compost
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prep boxes and any in ground beds with spade forks, shovels, or rototill if necessary. Spread compost - teachers, students, Carrie - Begin planting sensitive plants (like tomatos and peppers) around 3rd week of May - teachers, students, Carrie - Keep seeds and seedlings well-watered. - Wood mulch around HZ garden every 2 years - ?? - Create volunteer list and calendar - email and post – teachers, Carrie - Install irrigation - schools, teachers, students, Carrie 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare any areas for re-wilding projects - teachers, students, Carrie, maintenance. - Plant native perennial plants - teachers, students, Carrie - Turn compost
Jun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Finish planting for the spring - teachers, students, Carrie - Set up volunteer station with garden log, gloves, shovels - Carrie - Weed, water - volunteers, teachers, students, Carrie - SCHOOL IS OUT FOR SUMMER! 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Study flowers and pollination - Observe insects in the garden and work to decide whether they are beneficial or not. - Plant a last round of carrots for fall harvest - Turn compost

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Jul	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Weed, water - volunteers - Harvest garlic if planted - volunteers, teachers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Succession plant for fall crops as necessary. Can still plant arugula, beets, broccoli, carrots, cauliflower, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, radishes, rutabagas, spinach, turnips. - Turn compost
Aug	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Weed, water, harvest - volunteers, teachers, Carrie 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Succession plant for fall crops as necessary. Can still plant arugula, kohlrabi (short season), lettuce, radishes, spinach, and turnips. - Turn compost
Sep	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SCHOOL STARTS! - Weed, water, harvest - teachers, students, Carrie - Eat the delicious produce. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plant spinach, lettuce, radishes, arugula, cilantro. - Make room for winter crops by harvesting summer crops - Plant cover crops like winter peas, rye, barley, winter wheat - Collect tomato seeds. - Compost something to see what happens - Make pickles, salsa, and/or pizza sauce - Have a scent scavenger hunt with herbs - Have a harvest celebration in the garden - Turn compost

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Oct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water, harvest - teachers, students, Carrie - Begin cleaning up gardens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plant bulbs including flowers and garlic. - Spread compost - Explore the compost pile - Collect perennial seeds – discuss seed dispersal. - Look at underground plant parts and observe difference between annuals and perennials.
Nov	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Harvest – teachers, students, Carrie - Clean up gardens 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spread compost - Observe and study the plants that have been killed by frost and those still alive and well. - Design and construct cloches and other season extension ideas.
Dec	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Harvest any remaining crops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - See ideas from January - Indoor sprouting experiments - Create spring planting calendars and garden maps