Farm to School Efforts Supporting Resilient Local Food Systems

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Agriculture Outlook Forum 2021
Our 3 Pillars of Work:

1. Distribute **grant funding** to improve access to local foods in schools.

2. Disseminate **research and data** on existing programs and opportunities for expansion.

3. Provide **training and technical assistance** to improve access to local foods in schools.
Farm to School Grant Program

- FY 2020 USDA awarded $12.1 million to 159 grantees
- Since 2013, USDA has awarded over $52 million to 719 grantees

https://www.fns.usda.gov/cfs/farm-school-grant-program
Fact Sheets

Community Food Systems Fact Sheets

General Overviews
- Office of Community Food Systems Resources
- Research Shines: Polo Farm to School Stories
- Integrating Local Foods into Child Nutrition Programs
- Selling Local Food to Schools: A Resource for Producers
- How Cooperative Extension Professionals Can Support Farm to School Programs
- Effective Strategies State Agencies Can Use to Support Community Food Systems
- Farm to Child Nutrition Programs Planning Guide

Special Topics
- School Gardens: Using Gardens to Grow Healthy Habits in California, Classrooms, and Communities
- Bringing Tribal Foods and Traditions into Cafeterias, Classrooms, and Gardens
- Gardens in Tribal Communities

www.fns.usda.gov/cfs/fact-sheets
Help agricultural producers build their capacity to launch or expand efforts to market to schools, therefore increasing farm to school activity in schools.

Farm to School Producer Training

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Our E-Letter, the Dirt!

Subscribe at https://www.fns.usda.gov/cfs
Coming Soon!

USDA FARM to SCHOOL 2019 CENSUS
Supporting Farm to School Efforts in 2020
Gardens
Brooklyn Center Schools (MN), FY 2018 Implementation Grantee

www.bccs286.org
Grow at Home

Hello Parents/Guardians,

Here is your student’s Grow at Home Seed Kit. Please read this letter with your student before they get started.

**In This Kit, You’ll Find:**

1. **Bee Seeds** for your student to grow at home
2. Soil for planting the seeds
3. **Planting instructions** for planting seeds and taking care of the bean plants
4. **Activity Sheet** for your student to complete as the bean plants grow
5. **Plant Observation Sheet** for your student to record how the plants grow

**Tips:**
- Keep the seeds in a clean, cool place to help them sprout. Please note these do not need to be refrigerated.
- To help your student plant the seeds, you may want to find a plant or label to provide guidance for your student.

Good luck growing your beans! When they are ready, your student will be notified.

Find a sunny spot for your kit.
Place one seed inside the hole.
Now it is time to plant the seed! Use your finger to make a little hole in the soil.
Use a spoon to fill the milk carton with soil ¼ of the way full (about a fingernail’s length from the top).
Agriculture Education
Urban Roots (NV), FY 2019 Implementation Grantee

www.urgc.org
Local Procurement
Need More Acres Farms

Kentucky Department of Ag, FY 2018 Implementation Grantee

www.needmoreacres.com
Concrete School District (WA), FY 2016 Implementation Grantee
United General District 304 (WA), FY 2018 Planning Grantee
LOCAL FOODS DIRECTORY MAP
https://www.nd.gov/ndda/NDLFMAP

Navigating a Changing Food Supply Chain During COVID-19 School Closures
West Virginia Department of Agriculture
2020 State Agency Grant
Thank You!

Please contact SM.FN.FarmToSchool@usda.gov for any questions regarding OCFS resources and the Farm to School Grant Program!