



School Gardening
Resources

PRIMARY LEVEL

BORD BIA
IRISH FOOD BOARD

Useful Resources For Teachers





Websites

www.bordbia.ie/primary-school		Activity sheets for school gardening, posters, lesson plans.
www.engagewithnature.ie		Videos and articles on school gardening.
www.biodiversityinschools.com/school-gardens.html		Garden projects, biodiversity posters, school visits and workshops.
www.patrickhuntgardening.com		Courses, school visits and workshops, vegetable wall chart, design and construction of gardens.
www.sonairte.ie		Courses, school visits and workshops, school tours on gardening and biodiversity.
www.irishseedsavers.ie		Courses, school visits and workshops, shop.
www.theorganiccentre.ie		Courses, school visits and workshops, shop.
www.quickcrop.ie		Videos on growing vegetables, blog, shop.
www.greenvegetableseeds.com		Videos on gardening, newsletter, shop.
www.giy.ie		Videos on gardening, blog, information on vegetables, shop.
www.gardenorganic.org.uk/schools		Games, grow your own cards, construction projects, wildlife projects, planning advice, posters on school gardening.
http://schoolgardening.rhs.org.uk/resources		Activities, projects and lesson plans on school gardening.
www.growingwild.ie		Information on courses, school visits, projects and setting up school gardens.
www.gortbrackorganicfarm.com		Courses, training, school visits and workshops.



Books

The Year-Round Organic School Garden (Revised Edition)

Living Publications: ISBN 978 0 9561301-0-5

For a copy contact:

earthedkerry@gmail.com

lucy@growingwild.ie

info@irishseedsavers.ie

This is a practical guide for teachers and other education practitioners. It aims to help with the planning, design, creation and use of an organic school garden with children and teenagers. It demonstrates the huge possibilities of using the school grounds as an educational resource, to learn about organic food production & the importance of biodiversity.

Go Wild at School, Paddy Madden

ISBN 0-9527546-0-61

Email: maddenpac@gmail.com

Also available from www.quickcrop.ie

'Go Wild at School' was published for the 3rd time in 2011. It outlines how to make the school grounds environmentally friendly. It details how to establish a mini-wood and native hedgerow, meadows, sanctuaries for birds and insects, a tree nursery, a vegetable patch and water habitats. It has monthly reminders and a DIY section.

Growing Naturally - A Teacher's Guide to Organic Gardening, Maggi Brown

ISBN 1 85741 022 X

Muck and Magic, Jo Readman

Search Press: ISBN 978 0 85265 098 1

Wild Things at School, Eanna Ni Lamhna

ISBN 978-1-900-923-118

Written for teachers this book sets out a series of 48 species which should be taught to primary school pupils - 6 for each year. This breaks down to 2 wildflowers, 1 tree, 1 bird, 1 mammal and 1 creepy crawly. The teachers adopt this book at the year's school planning meeting and each year then teach the species recommended for each particular year. Thus, the pupil's knowledge builds up year on year and each teacher knows what has been taught to the child in the years previous. The book contains all the information the teachers need about each species together with suggested activities for each species.

Books

Gardening for Biodiversity, Juanita Browne, Illustrated by Barry Reynolds

It can be downloaded free from:
<https://laois.ie/wp-content/uploads/Garden-Wildlife-Booklet-WEB-17MB.pdf>
or free hard copies can be ordered from local authorities.

Details how to attract birds, bats, butterflies and mammals to the garden, create a wildflower patch and nesting sites for solitary bees, how to plant for pollinators, how to build a log pile, how to grow willow from cuttings and how to create wetland areas.

Vegetables for the Irish Garden, Klaus Laitenberger

Milkwood Publishing:
ISBN-10: 0956506305
ISBN-13: 978-0956506306

Available from:
www.greenvegetableseeds.com
www.theorganiccentre.ie
www.fruithillfarm.ie
www.quickcrop.ie
www.horticultureconnected.ie
and some bookshops.



Online sources for organic seeds

www.theorganiccentre.ie

The Organic Centre

www.fruithillfarm.com/seeds-and-propagation/organic-seeds.html

Fruit Hill Farm

www.irishseedsavers.ie

Irish Seed Savers

www.seedaholic.com

Seed-aholic

www.brownenvelopeseeds.com

Brown Envelope Seeds

www.greenvegetableseeds.com

Green Vegetable Seeds

www.seedsireland.ie

The Irish Seed Shop

www.irishplantsdirect.ie

Irish Plants Direct



Funding

Community Environment Action Fund	This used to be called Local Agenda 21. It is organised by the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications annually. Funds are distributed to local authorities to subsidise local environmental initiatives. These include school gardens.
Clár	Organised by the Department of Rural and Community Development. Funding is provided annually for small scale infrastructural projects in rural areas.
Local authorities	Funding available for local environmental projects.
Some local businesses	Community funds to support school gardens.
Parents	Often willing to provide funding and practical help in setting up and maintaining a school garden.
Plant sales and raffles in schools on an annual Open Day	Will generate funds for school gardening. Plants could be donated by parents and grandparents. Some schools raise the plants for sale themselves. Pelargoniums and other bedding plants always sell well. These can be bought cheaply as small plugs in early spring and cared for by different classes.
The Creative Schools Programme	Funds creativity in schools which includes outdoor learning spaces.
Local Tidy Towns group	Often help towards the funding of school gardens.