

How to: Involve your local community

Grow Around the World offers a fantastic opportunity to work with your local community through school growing and cooking activities, and reflect the rich diversity of people and cultures in your London borough. Here are some ideas on how to work with the local community, businesses and volunteers to support your school garden, through Grow Around the World activities.

Welcome the community in

- **Organise a seed swap** – welcome parents and carers and local allotment associations who grow food to donate seeds to your school, including seeds from unusual crops. Involve the PTA.
- **Hold an International Food Day** – invite parents and carers to come in and share their national dish or recipe with your school. Cook it together and learn about the ingredients they have used, then hold a celebratory lunch.
- **Join the Big Dig** – join the national celebration of community gardening and open your school gates to the public for an exciting day of action:
 - **Student-led garden tours** – showing off your unusual vegetables
 - **Gardening activities** – seeds sowing, planting, growing demonstrations.
 - **Produce sales** - sell extra seeds, leftover unusual crops, chutneys and community recipe books to make extra money for your school garden project.

For dates and further information, please visit the website: www.bigdig.org.uk



- **Create an international food recipe book** – include a dish from each of the nationalities represented in your school, and a section on how to grow some of the plants used. Welcome contributions from parents and carers working with students.
- **Find local help** – We believe that London schools should be connected with local support – from food networks and community gardens, to green-fingered locals and food businesses. A community on your doorstep helping you grow. Find out how:
 - www.foodgrowingschools.org/support/support_schools



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024 7621 7747 | fgslondon@gardenorganic.org.uk |  @foodgrowingschools |  @foodgrowschools