



Planning Your Garden

Let's Grow, Glow, and Go Green!



FORT TUDE
LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Agenda

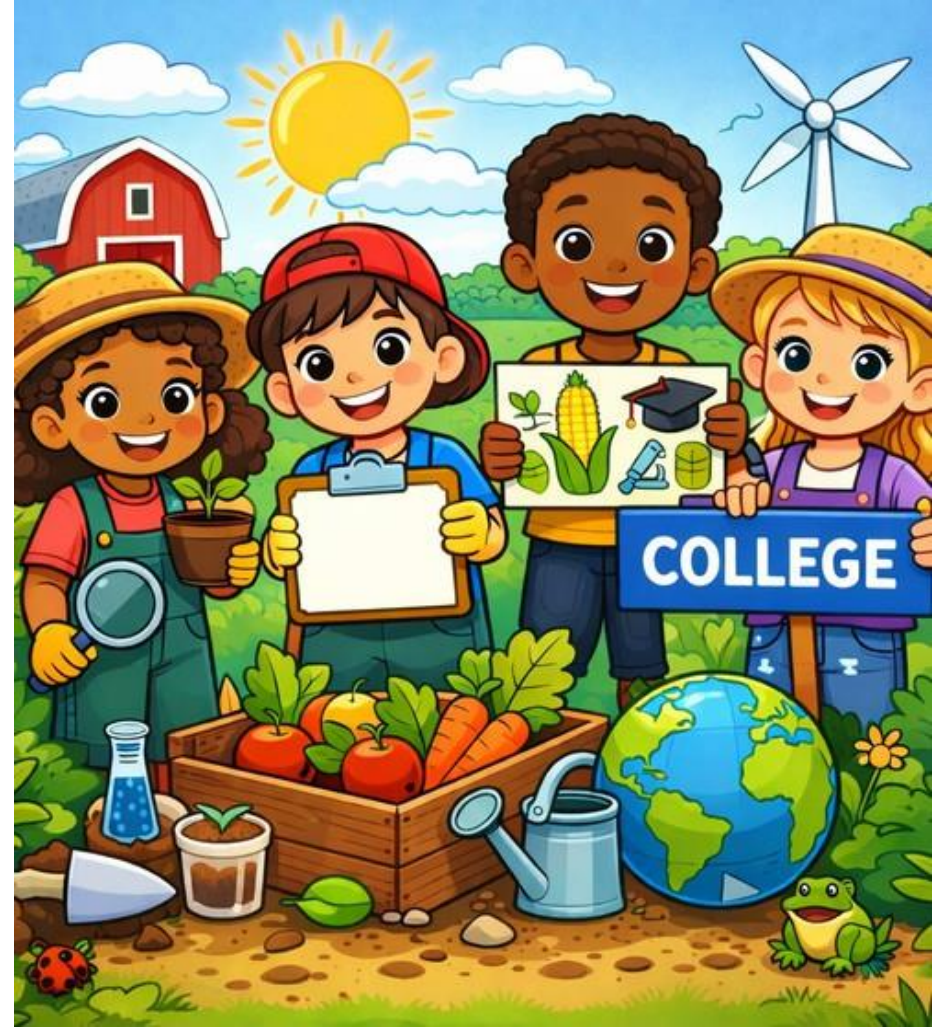
- Welcome and an overview on how to choose crops based on climate and environment
- Space-smart gardening and garden layout planning
- Crop rotation and companion planting
- Preparing soil and planting seeds or seedlings
- **Career Spotlight:** Agronomist, Horticulturist, Conservation Planner
- **College Connection:** Agronomy, horticulture, sustainable agriculture majors
- Activity: Designing a garden plan using sustainable principles



Objectives

At the end of this session, participants will:

1. Apply sustainable planting techniques appropriate to climate, space, and soil conditions.
2. Understand crop rotation, companion planting, and garden planning as conservation practices.
3. Learn about agricultural careers involved in crop planning and plant science.
4. Gain awareness of college programs related to plant science and agriculture.





Choosing What to Grow

Pick the Perfect Plant!

Hot & Dry ☀️ | Cool & Rainy ☁️ | Mild & Sunny 🌤️

Call out which plants fit each:

- Hot & Dry: Cactus 🌵, Rosemary 🌿
- Cool & Rainy: Lettuce 🥬, Carrots 🥕
- Mild & Sunny: Tomatoes 🍅, Peppers 🌶️

“Plants are like people — some love the sun, some like the shade!”

Climate Consideration



Hot & Dry



Cool & Rainy



Mild & Sunny

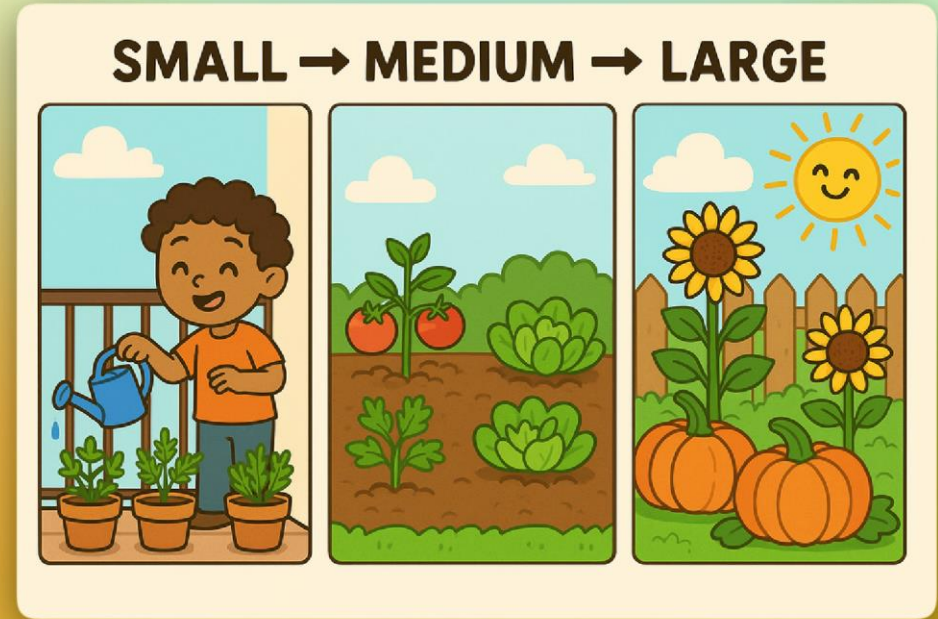
Space Smart Gardening - How Much Room Do You Have?

Big plants need more space
—small ones can fit
anywhere!

Left: Small balcony with pots of herbs and a happy child watering them ☐

Center: Small yard with tomato and salad plants 🍅

Right: Big backyard with pumpkins and tall sunflowers



What Do You Love to Eat? Garden of Favorites!

If you could grow your favorite food, what would it be?



Smart Skills – Be a Garden Thinker!

Good gardeners think before they plant!



Plan Your Garden Layout - Where Should Everything Grow?

Every plant needs the perfect spot!

Garden Layout:

-  Sunflowers in back
-  Lettuce in shade
-  Tomatoes in sun

To be successful we must:

“Water,” “Weed,” “Harvest”



Crop Rotation & Companion Planting - Plant Buddies!

Some plants are best friends!

- Tomatoes and marigolds holding hands
🌻🍅
- Corn and beans helping each other grow
🌽🌱
- Carrots and onions giving high-fives
🥕🧅



Designing Your Garden – Be a Garden Artist!

Design your dream garden — mix colors, shapes, and smells!

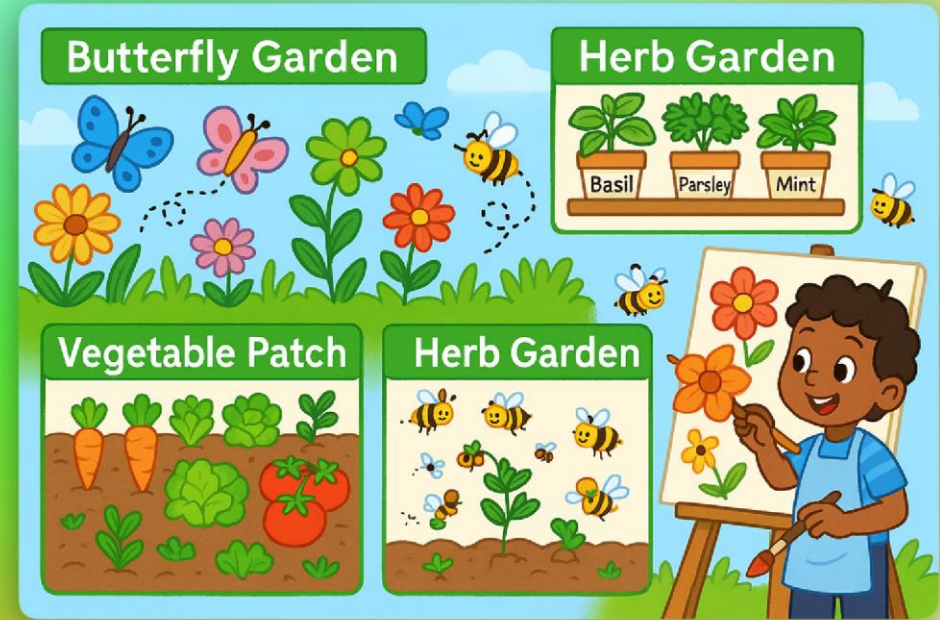
Three fun gardens:

Butterfly Garden 🦋 – flowers and butterflies

Vegetable Patch 🍅 – rows of veggies

Herb Garden 🌿 – labeled pots on a shelf

(Page 24 of Handbook)



Putting Your Plan into Action - Let's Get Planting!

Summarize steps to start planting.

1. Pull weeds & prep soil
2. Plant seeds or seedlings
3. Water and mulch
4. Watch it grow! 🌱



Choosing plants is a real job!

NRCS works with people who:

- Plant crops
- Protect plant health
- Design sustainable farms



Careers That Plan What Grows



Agronomist

Advises on which crops grow best and how to protect them.



Horticulturist

Specializes in growing fruits, vegetables, and ornamental plants.



Conservation Planner

Designs sustainable farms with a focus on ecosystem health.

There are college programs in Alabama that prepare students for plant-related careers and sustainable agriculture.

- Sustainable Agriculture
- Agronomy
- Horticulture



Activity Sheet Challenge - Design Your Own Garden!

Use your creativity! Plan,
draw, and label your garden



Every Seed is a New Beginning!

Great gardens
start with YOU!

