



School Garden Friendly Crops

These 23 crops all pass the test of our garden educators as winners for school gardens! Over the years, we have refined what crops really are the best fit for a school garden setting in the Willamette Valley of Oregon. These are crops that are: fairly easy to grow, can handle a little neglect (think inconsistent watering), are culturally significant, lend themselves nicely to science exploration, support the garden ecosystem and are harvestable during school months.

Crops in **blue** are crops you can plant in the fall. Some of them you harvest in the fall and some in the spring. Crops in **orange** are crops you must plant in the late spring. They all grow over the summer and will be harvestable in the fall. Flower crops are in **purple**. These can all self-seed or can be planted in the spring and sometimes even in the fall.

Winter-Spring	Summer-Fall	Flowers
Kale	Cherry or currant tomatoes (Sungold is one delicious variety)	Nasturium
Radish	Lemon Cucumbers	Bachelor Buttons
Lettuce	Potatoes	Calendula
Arugula	Beans- Dry Beans (Bush) (dragon tongue, tiger eye, Orca beans and more)	Fennel
Mustard (Red Giant, Green Wave; Mizuna)	Beans- Fresh (Pole, Runner Beans or Red Yard Long)	Pansies and violas
Green onions, Garlic tops or Chives	Mini-pumpkins	Marigold
Winter Grains: oats, barley and wheat	Popcorn (Calico or Early Pink or Tom Thumb- a miniature popcorn)	Sunflowers
Broad Windsor Fava Bean		Borage