

School garden

Nature and food education for children

School gardens, education for life

Students get their own piece of land to take care of here. With their own hands and with great joy they grow vegetables, herbs, and flowers in their garden. Out of the ground and fresh on the plate.

Working together with nature and with each other

Whilst gardening in living soil, children learn that they are part of the cycle of life. They experience the influence of the different seasons, learn about collaborations in nature and together they make beautiful and tasty things from the harvest. Dealing with a disappointing harvest is also part of it, as is learning to share or persevere in the heat or rain.

More than 100 years of school gardens in Amsterdam

It is April 3, 1920, when the school garden project in Amsterdam starts. Children aged 11 and 12 come to the 'schoolwork garden' after school to work on a piece of land of 20 m². The children each pay 15 cents a week, the harvest can be taken home.

Now more than 7,000 students garden every year in one of the thirteen school gardens in Amsterdam. Eighty five percent of all primary schools in Amsterdam participate in the school garden programme. Since 2020 we also have a school garden in the garden of the Rijksmuseum.

And in 2022, two groups from Amsterdam and Almere will follow school garden education at the Floriade Expo. This is a collaboration with 'Stad & Natuur' from Almere.

Stad & Natuur

Almere only came into existence at the end of the 1970s and nature and environmental education has been given a permanent place since 1981. In Almere, 23,000 children per year go out into nature with Stad & Natuur. The organization offers schools an extensive package of activities in the field of nature, plants, animals, biology, nutrition, health, farm education and sustainability. The students from Almere also discover where food comes from. They get to work with food: smelling, cutting, tasting, cooking. The offer has an artistic, creative, sporting and/or technical angle.