



Edible Schoolyard Garden

Montessori Children's House of Lenawee

In the spring of 2013 our school community designed and created the Edible Schoolyard. Sponsors, local businesses and donors provided plants, seeds, fruit trees, soil and organic bedding material. Wooden bed boxes were prepared by the LISD shop class. A grant from the Lenawee Youth Council and the Lenawee Community Foundation helped with the purchase of materials and tools needed for the garden.

Volunteers, staff and the children prepare, plant, maintain and harvest wonderful organic fruits and vegetables throughout the spring, summer and fall months.

Our garden helps the children to develop skills in correlation with our Montessori philosophy:

- Hands-on learning
- Nutrition and self care
- Cooperation
- Independence
- Order
- Confidence
- Care of the environment
- Physical activity
- Sense of community
- Collaboration

Teachers provide valuable educational lessons in science, math and reading. Children learn about nutrition while preparing and cooking healthy food from the garden.

Future plans:

- Establish a wheelchair-accessible garden box
- Develop a "peace garden" for the Montessori and LISD students
- Create a grape arbor
- Build a green house
- Produce a video of the garden for educational purposes

