

THE GROWING YOUNG FARMERS SCHOOL PROGRAM

All GYF School Programs start with interactive presentations to students about the importance of growing and producing **local health-friendly organic food**.

Then, **every week**, students visit chemical-free food-growing areas where they grow and produce the food – and do so **hands-on**.

The food-growing areas are situated on school grounds and/or are within easy walking distance.

Students participate in this exciting and innovative Program **every week**. Therefore, the Program becomes literally part and parcel of their regular curriculum-based school week.

The Program is structured, supervised and mentored.



WHY WE NEED THE GROWING YOUNG FARMERS SCHOOL PROGRAM

- We have become dependent on imported food
- We have only 72 hours of food supply
- We need more people growing and producing more healthy-friendly food – **in a community for a community**
- In BC there are 500,000 school-age students
- The vast majority of those students are able and capable of growing and producing food
- The Growing Young Farmers **SCHOOL PROGRAM** provides the structure, supervision and mentorship that actually empowers students in such a way that they are able to grow and produce the food themselves
- By growing and producing food on a **SUBSTANTIAL SCALE** – every week – students will play an important and essential role in addressing the “...growing and producing more food **in a community for a community**” scenario

WHO TEACHES THE STUDENTS HOW TO GROW AND PRODUCE THE FOOD?

- Within the structured and supervised Program, **GROWER-EDUCATORS** provide the mentorship required to teach the students
- All Grower-Educators are experienced in growing and producing health-friendly food they also have experience in supervising and/or teaching school-age students
- There is an ever-increasing requests from principals and teachers to have their students participate in our **GROWING YOUNG FARMERS SCHOOL PROGRAM**. Therefore, we need more Grower-Educators!

OUR GROWER-EDUCATORS:

1. Plan, coordinate, mentor and supervise every GYF class, every week, in every school.
2. Work with the GYF Program Director to ensure learning outcomes and successful gardens.
3. Invite school teachers to determine their own level of involvement, and encourage the use of GYF classes to complement and reinforce their teaching material.

WHAT DO STUDENTS AND TEACHERS THINK?

“If every student did this in their community, took part in a GYF program, it would make a big difference.”

*Ryan, Gr. 4
Sidney Elementary*

“The Growing Young Farmers Program made me very aware of the food security situation on Vancouver-Island.”

*Tom, Global Studies 12
Claremont Secondary*

“Participating in the Growing Young Farmers Program has been an enriching experience for my Grade 4 students. Through interactive classroom activities and weekly opportunities to get their hands dirty at a local, organic garden, students learned while having fun and being active, and they realized the value of growing and eating healthy, local, organic food.”

*Jennifer Alberring, Grade 4 Teacher,
Sidney Elementary*

THE GYF SOCIETY IS DEDICATED TO:

- Educating youth about food security issues.
- Providing youth with hands-on opportunities to learn how to grow healthy and environmentally friendly food.
- Developing programs that empower youth to take proactive, positive roles in their communities' sustainable food systems.
- Creating and encouraging community partnerships as foundations for sustainable agriculture.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT:

As a newly founded non-profit registered society, GYFS needs regular and frequent input of funds - just to survive. Therefore, we would certainly appreciate support from people in the community.

- GRANT APPLICATIONS; to assist with the applications to Government and NGO
- SPONSORSHIP from LOCAL BUSINESSES; if you own or manage a local business we have a number of attractive sponsorship options available. By becoming a sponsor of GYFS you are supporting a local youth driven organization. Also, it will certainly help 'raise the profile and increase the awareness of YOUR BUSINESS'
- VOLUNTEERS; there are various and rewarding roles which need to be filled. And it is purely your choice as to how many (or little) hours you wish to contribute

For more details on the above and other GYFS related information, please contact:



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We believe that all school students should learn and be encouraged to grow health-friendly food. Students have to learn subjects like Math, English, History, Geography...

The Growing Young Farmers SCHOOL PROGRAM actually teaches students to grow health-friendly organic food!