Connecting Learning and Living

**Growing in the Garden: Elementary Curriculum** includes more than forty classroom and after-school program lessons and more than one hundred hands-on activities designed to enhance and increase knowledge of agriculture, natural resources, food and people. These lessons and activities are intended for children in grades K-3, but can be modified for any age. Each unit of lessons is organized to progress from easier to more advanced. Curriculum aligns with the essential concepts and skill sets of the Iowa Core Curriculum for science, literacy, math, social studies and 21st Century skills.

**Growing in the Garden: Local Foods and Healthy Living** is designed for youth gardening programs, community neighborhood gardens, farm to school programs, Ag in the Classroom and Master Gardening projects. The seven units address questions such as Why do people garden? How do you plan, plant, maintain and harvest a garden? How do you store and prepare garden produce? Each unit includes a general background section and lessons that align with the Iowa 4-H Youth Development program priorities as well as the Common Core and Iowa core subject standards for grades K-4 and can be adapted for students in grades fifth through college.

**Where We Live series: History of the Land, Weaving the Food Web, and Living with the Land** connects the past to the present as learners in grades 4th through college learn about the history of Iowa’s valuable natural resources through hands-on activities about rocks, prairies, grains, trees and animals. The curriculum teaches children, youth and adults about food and land production through plants, animals, harvest, processing, distribution, and marketing to the consumer. The curriculum also teaches how consumers value the land and methods used to grow food and protect our natural resources through soil conservation, water quality, pest management and animal care issues.

For more information on the Connecting Learning and Living program, curricula, and training, please visit: [http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/growinginthegarden](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/growinginthegarden)

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