### Interdisciplinary Learning and Cross Curriculum Links

#### Designing and Making
- Designing a school garden
- Produce for enterprise
- Signage and displays
- Watering systems

#### Using Technology
- Databases
- Spreadsheets
- Web research
- Digital photography

#### Environmental Education
- Managing ecosystems
- Environmental issues
- Diversity and complexity
- Interdependence
- Biological webs
- Cycles and dynamic balance
- Sustainable practices

#### Communication
- Interviewing community members
- Substantive conversations
- Multilingualism
- Collaborative decision making
- Sharing information

#### Thinking
- Reasoning in an orderly manner
- Parts of a complex whole
- Solving problems

#### Aboriginal Education
- Bush tucker and medicine plants
- Traditional craft plants

#### Gender Equity
- Sharing roles
- Rotating jobs

#### Numeracy
- Basic number operations
- Estimating and measuring
  - Length and area
  - Volume and capacity
  - Weight and mass
- Gathering and organizing data
  - Tallying
  - Graphing
  - Databases
- Time and space
  - Area
  - Volume
  - Scale
  - Position
  - 2-dimensional plans
  - 3-dimensional models
  - Timelines
- Working mathematically
  - Applying strategies
  - Reasoning

#### Science
- Science skills
  - Investigating
  - Observing
  - Recording
  - Measuring
  - Predicting
  - Testing
  - Comparing
  - Concluding
- Earth and its Surroundings
  - Weather
  - Water cycle
  - Soils and geology
- Living Things
  - Plant identification
  - Plant growth
  - Plant biology
  - Needs of living things
  - Life cycles

#### Personal and Social
- Reasoning in an orderly manner
- Parts of a complex whole
- Solving problems

#### Multicultural Education/LOTE/ESL
- Multilingual signage
- Cultural gardening practices
- Origins of plants

#### Literacy
- Reading
  - Research
  - Seed packet directions
  - Related fiction
  - Work of classmates
- Writing
  - Information texts
  - Research reports
  - Journal entries
  - Recording observations
  - Creative works
  - Letters of thanks
  - Requests, invitations
- Handwriting
  - First and final drafts
- Speaking
  - Interviewing
  - Expressing opinions
  - Questioning
  - Restating
  - Summarising
- Listening
  - Following directions
  - Understanding sequences
  - Stories

#### Arts and Crafts
- Visual
  - Painting and sketching
  - Graphic symbols
  - Illustrating
  - Gift cards
- Performance
  - Singing
  - Rhythms of gardening
  - Instruments from vegetables
  - Drama – role plays
  - Celebration dance
- Craft
  - Vegetable dyes
  - Vegetable printing
  - Scarecrow construction
  - Mosaic pavers

#### Geography
- Geographical knowledge
  - Natural and built components
  - School and local environment
- Geospatial space
  - Relationships with places
  - Mapping school grounds

#### Economics
- Costing a garden enterprise
- Wise resource use

Research shows that involving students in gardening activities and natural settings in schools through collaborative, hands-on, cross-curriculum, student-centred learning can lead to:

- Bio-psychological benefits - enjoyment, relaxation and lower stress levels.
- Environmental benefits - stewardship and care of the natural environment.
- Developmental benefits - enhanced physical, cognitive and emotional development.
- Academic benefits - better performance on standard tests, higher grade averages.
- Personal and social benefits - improved attendance, improved behaviour, reduced playground accidents, reduced boredom, reduced bullying and vandalism.