

CO-CREATE VERTICAL GARDENS: HOW TO

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What is a Vertical Garden?

Planting of small trees, shrubs, bushes around school walls (not blocking windows) to insulate the classrooms to reduce interior temperatures and provide cooling effects.



Sample photos used paper in the process of becoming new recycled paper.

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Why do vertical gardens matter for the climate and the environment?

- They support increased tree and vine planting which helps with the environmental health and greening of school compounds
- They help reduce rising classroom temperatures because of climate change to support a more conducive learning environment
- Vertical gardens allow us to take advantage of vertical spaces/surfaces and increase production capacity of crops, fruits and green plants
- They allow communities with limited resources to learn about and take part in agricultural and environment conservation practices, especially in tree planting

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How are vertical gardens connected to the broader climate action teacher champion toolkit?

Vertical gardens promote the integration of plants in new spaces and contribute to the overall greening strategy of schools. Similar skills used in planting and maintaining the vertical garden are used with wigwams, planting pots, and the microforest. The compost from the soil factory and wigwam can also be used here.

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Materials Needed for the Vertical Gardens:

- Two vines/plants per lattice/school wall
- Two wooden latices (one per classroom wall)
- Twine/string to secure the vines
- 12kg of compost
- Water to irrigate

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How do I set up the vertical garden?

1. Install the wooden lattice against the exterior wall of the classroom. You can do this by digging holes to secure the lattice in place.
2. Plant two vines/plants per lattice, adding compost and water
3. Secure the vines/plants up the lattice by using vine/string (secure the vines over time as they grow to promote increased growth)
4. Water the vines/plants regularly
5. Harvest and maintain your vines by pruning branches if they grow past the classroom wall, for example

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What will I see if the Vertical Garden is working?

- Two secured lattice structures outside the classroom walls
- Lush green vines covering the external walls of the classroom
- A cooler classroom because of increased insulation and cooling affects against outdoor temperatures