



## 2022 FBBG K12 Plant Science Education Report



### Funded Programs:

*Plant Hope\*, Planet Hope\*, Adopt A Class\*, Scouts, Home School, Learning Journeys (MPS initiative for 1<sup>st</sup> grade public school students) \* multi session consecutive learning*



### Organizational Overview

- The *Friends of Boerner Botanical Gardens* (FBBG) was established in 1984 in order to preserve and promote Boerner Botanical Gardens as an outstanding regional destination for learning and enjoyment.
- FBBG's K-12 student centered, outcomes driven, nature based, plant science and environmental education, occurs largely in the gardens, *and is the centerpiece of our mission and focus of our initiatives.*



- Since our inception, we have continually enhanced and expanded our programming, in order to ensure that all children have substantive, measurable, in nature, experiential learning.
- Our programming engages all of their senses and equips developing minds with tools for learning *that they will carry with them and utilize throughout their lives.*



- Our educators are Wisconsin certified, and we follow national standards for science learning.

### Rationale / Ongoing Need

- Public school funding continues its decline, depriving K-12 students of vital *in-nature* education.
- Dominance of electronic media in the lives of developing minds is causing an increasing loss of tactile, sensory, interactive/interpersonal, and crucial learning that ensures life balance.

FBBG delivers year round, outcomes based programming, in nature, serving students from the *Greater Milwaukee Area* and surrounding Southeast Wisconsin schools.

### Our Class Objectives

- Enhance critical thinking skills; utilize and expand math and literacy skills.
- Learn side by side...builds *team* and *tolerance*.
- Provide students with firsthand experiences that directly support/augment in-school curriculums.
- Improve student understanding of plant and environmental science.
- Utilize service learning and introduce career choices in the Green Industry/related sectors.

Majority of our student programs are offered at no cost to student or school and include transportation.



### Our Organizational Goal

We continue to strive to return to our pre Covid student census; 16,000+ students learned with us in 2019.

Virtual programs were created for 2020 through spring 2021..

*Fall 2021 through 2022 school year we returned to in person student learning in nature.*

### Schools/Students Served:

Albert E. Kagel Elementary School	Eighty-First Street School	Humboldt Park School	North Crawford High School
Alexander Mitchell Integrated Arts School	Engleburg Elementary School	H.W. Longfellow School	Notre Dame Catholic School
Allen-Field Elementary School	Escuela Fratney	Jefferson Elementary School	Oliver Wendell Holmes School
Auer Avenue Community School	Escuela Vieau	Jeremiah Curtin Leadership Academy	Parkview Elementary School
Barton Elementary School	Escuela Verde	Keefe Avenue School	Richard Kluge Creative Arts Elementary School
Benjamin Franklin School	Gilbert Stuart Elementary School	Kosciuszko Elementary School	River Trail School
Brown Street Academy	Grantosa Drive School	Lincoln Avenue School	St. Jacobi Lutheran School
Bruce Elementary School	Greenfield Bilingual School	Manitoba School	St. Marcus Lutheran School
Bryant Elementary School	Gwen T. Jackson Early Childhood and Elementary School	Marvin E. Pratt Elementary School	Thurston Woods School
Canterbury Elementary School	Hales Corners Elementary School	Milwaukee Montessori School	Townsend Street School
Clarke Street School	Hamlin Garland School	Milwaukee Parkside School for the Arts	Trinity Lutheran School
Clement J. Zablocki Community School	Hampton Elementary School	Milwaukee Sign Language School	Trowbridge Street School of Great Lakes Studies
Congress School	Hawthorne Elementary School	Milwaukee Spanish Immersion School	U.S. Grant School
Cooper School	Hayes Bilingual Elementary School	Morgandale School	Walt Whitman School
Edgerton Elementary School	Henry David Thoreau School	Neeskara Elementary School	Washington Caldwell Elementary School
Edgewood Elementary School	Honey Creek School	Nicolet High School	Whittier Elementary School
	Horace Mann Elementary School	Ninety-Fifth Street School	

### Districts Served

Cudahy ▫ Greenfield ▫ Mil. Public Schools (MPS) ▫ West Allis/West Milwaukee ▫ Whitnall



## From Those We Serve - School Testimonials

### Mitchell Elementary

*Your teachers have great hands-on, engaging classes, help students make connections. Materials were explained clearly in kid friendly language. Lessons were engaging and appropriate for the age group. I like the new visuals and PowerPoint presentation.*

*Our students have learned so much from their time at FBBG!*

### Vieau Elementary

*I love the sequencing and building upon prior learning in the series.  
The hands-on learning and visuals really help students SEE what they are learning!*

### Horace Mann Elementary

*The class was engaging and interactive! The kids loved the experiments. The kids had fun and learned a lot. I look forward to our next trip.*

### Humboldt Park

*The hands-on component is most valuable. Plant Hope has been a great experience for our students year after year.*

### US Grant

*Students enjoy examining the soil, looking at mushrooms and observing the worms.  
I am grateful our students continue to be able to have this great learning experience.*

### Cooper School

*Your teachers are amazing! Their lessons are always fun and engaging.  
Thank you for a wonderful day. All lessons tie in with the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade science standards.*

### Horace Mann

*Program is very engaging, fun and informative. The kids love it!  
There are many hands-on activities, the kids love exploring the gardens.*

### Allen Field

*The hands-on learning is the best. Your teacher got students engaged in the activities.*

### Parkside School of the Arts

*This session really allowed students to do the thinking instead of all the information coming from the teacher.  
The conversations my students had with one another about the information they learned were exciting to hear.*

### Neeskara School

*Your teachers were tuned in to the needs and interests of our students and were able to accommodate our hearing impaired and behaviorally challenged students with ease.  
The instructors are very strong and keep students engaged in the lessons.*

### Zablocki School

*Our teacher was amazing! She shared information in a way that was fun for students.  
She is very knowledgeable and interactive with the children.  
Thank you for providing this experience... we look forward to coming back to the garden for another learning experience.*

### Holmes School

*The pictures and examples of plants were very helpful for students to understand the materials.  
Having seeds and vegetables for children to handle was excellent.  
Several days later the kids were still talking about them!*

#### Hayes School

*We are so fortunate to have a program like this in the Milwaukee area!*

#### Lincoln Ave

*The use of visuals was helpful for students to learn.  
Connecting food to plants with hands on learning was great!  
The timing of the lesson was perfect for our 1<sup>st</sup> graders.*

#### Spanish Immersion

*This program is so needed to teach the little ones how to care for nature.*

#### Milwaukee Montessori

*Your teacher demonstrates a great level of enthusiasm for the subject matter,  
keeping students excited and engaged throughout.*

#### Hales Corners Elementary

*This program was very engaging and fit perfectly with in-school learning.*

~

**In 2022...FBBG also returned to year round, in person *nature driven* community engagement with:**

- Volunteer recruitment (FBBG initiative begun in 2010); *over 24,000 community and corporate team hours* donated in support of FBBG and BBG *since program inception.*
- Stroller Rolls
- Toddler Tuesdays (2021 & 2022)
- Adult classes
- Garden Walks
- Family oriented activities
- Various historic Boerner enhancing/preservation initiatives
- [The FBBG donor funded interactive Children's Garden, Margie's Garden](#), opened July 8, 2022



***Friends of Boerner Botanical Gardens, Inc. (FBBG)***

**Since 1984**

[ehayward@fbbg.org](mailto:ehayward@fbbg.org) 414 525 5651 [boernerbotanicalgardens.org](http://boernerbotanicalgardens.org)