



SCHOOL GARDEN ACTIVITIES

Safety Guide

School Education

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Key Benefits

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Checklist Items

KEY BENEFITS

Science Learning

Builds understanding of plant life cycles, soil, and pollination.

Wellbeing

Supports wellbeing with calming, purposeful outdoor tasks.

Responsibility

Encourages responsibility through regular care and watering rotas.

Environmental Awareness

Strengthens environmental stewardship and biodiversity awareness.

KEY HAZARDS & CONTROL MEASURES**Tool Safety**

- ✓ Age-appropriate tools selected
- ✓ Tools counted out and counted back
- ✓ Tool use demonstrated before activity
- ✓ Secure storage when not in use

Plant Hazards

- ✓ Toxic plants removed from garden
- ✓ Gloves worn for handling plants
- ✓ Children taught not to eat unknown plants
- ✓ Allergies checked before activities

Weather Exposure

- ✓ Weather checked before sessions
- ✓ Shaded rest areas available
- ✓ Sun protection required in summer
- ✓ Sessions cancelled in extreme weather

Water Hazards

- ✓ Water features fenced or covered
- ✓ Direct supervision near water
- ✓ Containers emptied after use
- ✓ Clear rules about water access

PRE-SESSION SAFETY CHECKLIST**Risk Assessment**

- Complete and review risk assessment for this activity
- Brief all staff on key risks and emergency procedures
- Ensure all identified hazards have control measures in place

Pre-Session

- Weather checked
- Tools counted
- Area inspected
- Allergies reviewed

Equipment

- Tools age-appropriate
- First aid kit accessible
- Gloves available
- Water for drinking

Supervision

- Ratios appropriate
- Boundaries clear
- Rules explained
- Emergency plan known

After Session

- Tools collected
- Area secured
- Hands washed
- Incidents logged



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