

Gro Learning Gardens

College of Education & Human Development, UND

WHAT IS A LEARNING GARDEN

A **learning garden** is a place created for anyone in the community to connect to the natural world and learn environmental and community values of stewardship, sustainability, engagement and responsibility through garden experiences.

The learning garden takes an integrated and holistic approach to learning; it is experiential, interactive, engaged, and embodied.

The method of learning here is an interpretive method we call **Provocative Pedagogy**. Provocative pedagogy uses methods that evoke emotion, encourage the relationship between learner and nature, and validate personal experience to provoke our participants into taking action to protect biocultural systems.

Learning looks different in the garden. We learn to take an active role in local, regenerative food production and work toward our **garden goals** to be more sustainable and resilient.

What is the **StoryWalk**? The StoryWalk uses books about nature in an innovative way to promote literacy and physical activity while welcoming families to foster community and ecological literacy and encourage regenerative, sustainability goals.

"the care of the earth is our most ancient and most worthy and, after all, our most pleasing responsibility. To cherish what remains of it, and to foster its renewal, is our only legitimate hope." ~Wendell Berry

GARDEN GOALS

Develop ecological literacy and a sense-of-place in our community through sustainable gardening

Create a sustainable model of community engaged stewardship and sustainability through education

Address social, economic and ecological needs of our community

What is SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION?



It is **ECOLOGICAL** vitality in our community

Practices that support biodiversity and stewardship of our water, soil and air.



It is **SOCIAL** vitality in our community

Collaborations that support a shared sense of place, promote inter-generational community well-being, and recognize multiple histories.



It is **ECONOMIC** vitality in our community

Partnerships that demonstrate sustainable and responsible practices and support a diverse range of community partners, local producers and food networks.