



teacher exercise: **Infrastructure Challenge**

overview

A teacher exercise outlining good first practice steps for establishing a funded school garden.

objectives

Teachers will learn:

- to practice hypothetical next-steps for organizing the layout, materials and plans of a sustainable school garden.

scenario

Your school received a small grant for the construction to create an outdoor classroom. Your principal thinks that the school garden project may be an ideal candidate to receive the funds. The Garden Council has been given a budget of \$2,000 for the start-up costs involved in the design and construction of the initial phase of the garden.

Do a site inventory of your space and create a simple base map. Determine what supplies you will need to construct this garden, and create a budget.

considerations

Consider the following elements:

- **Your ideal base map may not fit within your budgetary constraints.** This means you may need to think about budget before you can begin your base map.
- **Start small.** Baby steps are often the best way to begin. Your larger vision could be a long-term project.
- **Be creative!** What could you get through donations? What could you build using the support of your custodian or community members, like parents?
- **What tools might you need** for students to participate in the process (shovels, gloves, wheelbarrows)?
- **Begin thinking about long term financial strategies** that could support continued growth and maintenance of the space.