



The Alaska Botanical Garden

Our Mission:

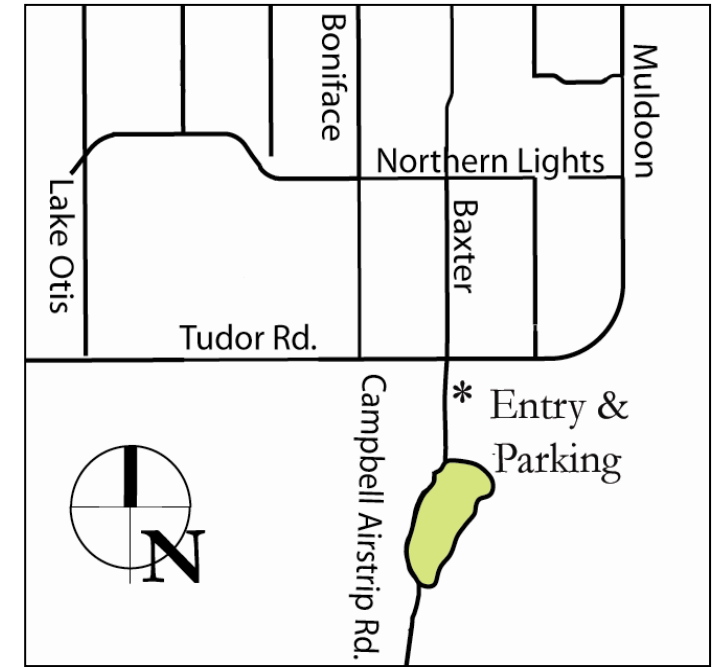
The Alaska Botanical Garden is a public garden dedicated to enhancing the beauty and value of plant material through ***education, preservation, recreation & research.***

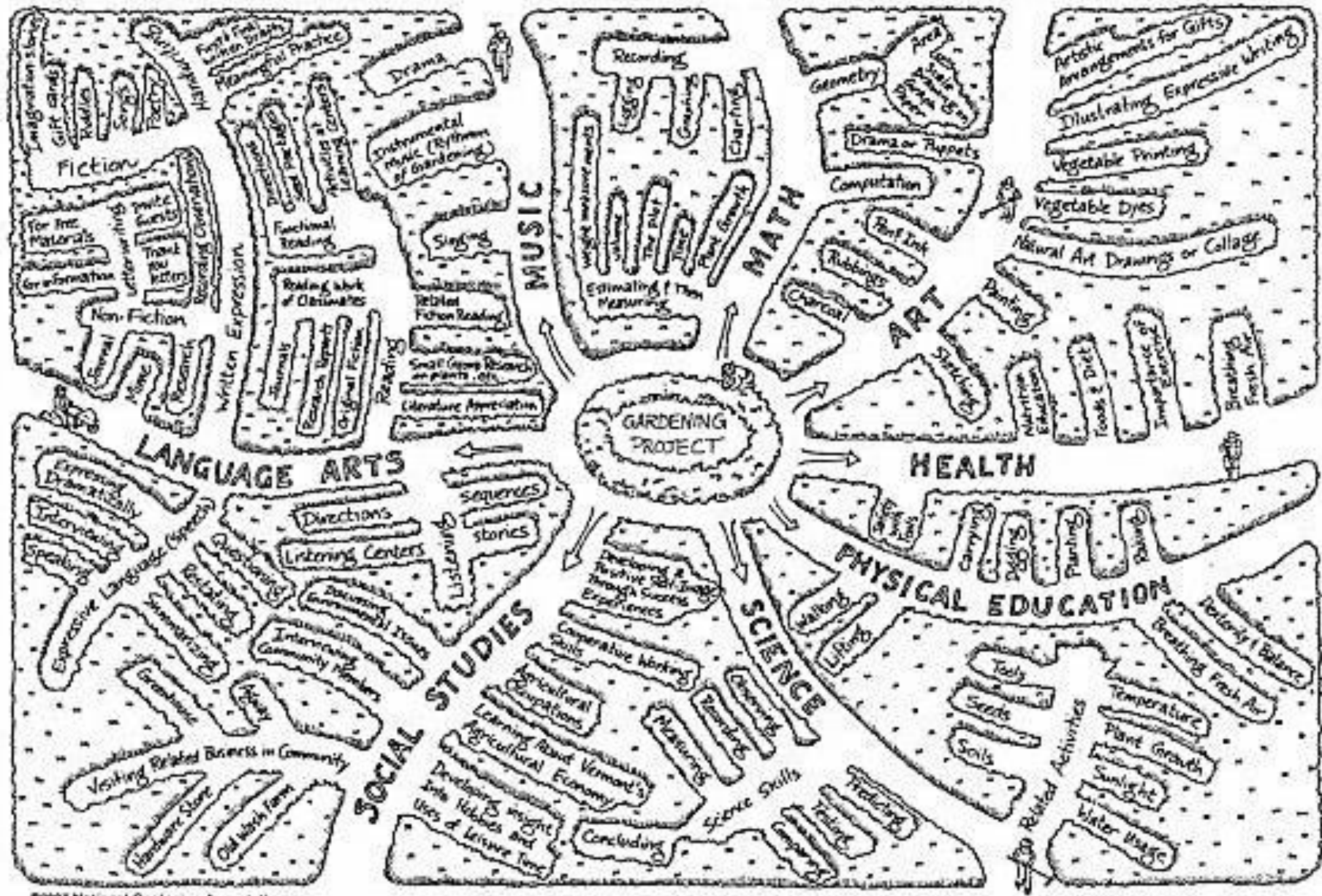




About the Garden

- Located on ~110 acres of land in East Anchorage, leased from the Municipality
- Borders Campbell Airstrip Road and the North Fork of Campbell Creek
- Privately-funded nonprofit 501 (c) 3 organization
- Next to Far North Bicentennial Park & Benny Benson School
- ABG receives no State, Federal, or Municipal operating support
- Members & Volunteers vital to Garden success
- One of the first entirely organic botanical gardens in U.S.
- Visitation increases with each summer – includes tourists from all corners of the world





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Garden study plan reprinted with permission from the National Gardening Association (NGA). For more information on youth gardening contact NGA, 1100 Dorset Street, South Burlington, Vermont 05403; www.garden.org.



ABG Programs for Children

Schools in the Garden

- Fall & Spring field trips for grades 1st – 6th
- Hands-on experiential science education following ASD curriculum

Junior Master Gardener

- Summer Day Camp for kids ages 7 - 12
- Focus on gardening, horticulture & ecology

Garden in the Schools

- Winter in-school lessons for elementary classes
- Topics: Soils, Composting & Worms; Health & Nutrition from the Garden; Alaska Plants & Trees



21st Century Community Learning Centers

- 8 schools in ASD, 600+ students engage in 1 field trip + 6 after-school lessons + 1 family night
- Alaska Native Cultural Charter, Begich, Fairview, North Star, Muldoon, Nunaka Valley, Ptarmigan, Wonder Park
- Indoor grow shelves, hands-on lessons teaching about science through gardening & the natural world



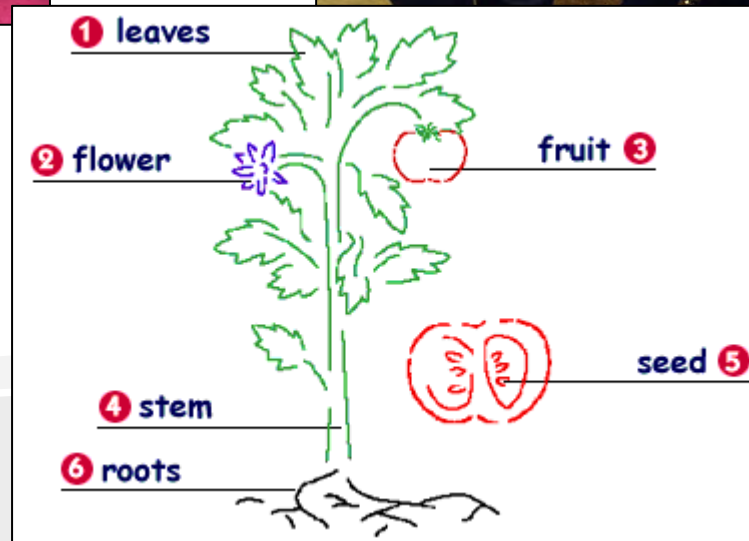
ABG's Partnership with 21st CCLC

- 2013-2014: began gardening in four 21st CCLC sites in Anchorage – Alaska Native Cultural Charter, Begich Middle, Fairview Elementary, North Star Elementary
- 2014-2015: expanded to four additional sites – Muldoon Elementary, Nunaka Valley Elementary, Ptarmigan Elementary, Wonder Park Elementary
- Program consists of 1 field trip, 6 in-school lessons, and 1 family night per year
- Program goal is to teach science through gardening and connecting youth to the natural world.





ABG's Partnership with 21st CCLC



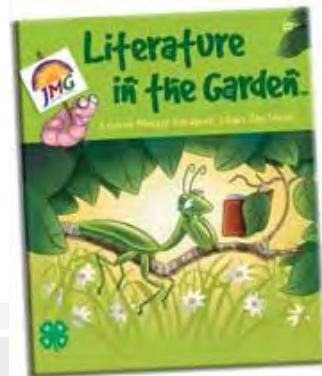


Junior Master Gardener



- The **Junior Master Gardener (JMG)** program is an international youth gardening program of the university cooperative Extension network. JMG engages children in novel, “hands-on” group and individual learning experiences that provide a love of gardening, develop an appreciation for the environment, and cultivate the mind.

JMG Level 1, Literature in the Garden, Wildlife Gardener, Operation Thistle, Operation Water





Junior Master Gardener



Requirements for certification in JMG Level 1:

- Belong to a registered JMG group.
- Complete any combination of 12 activities from the first seven teaching concepts.
- Complete one life skill/career exploration activity from the last teaching concept.
- Participate in one community service project.

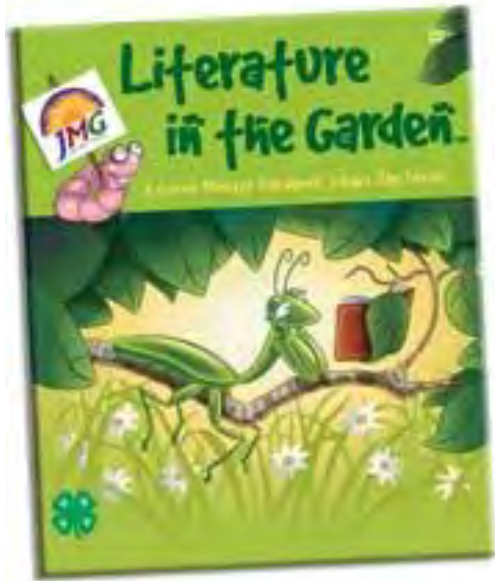


Six Learning Areas of JMG Level 1:

1. Plant Growth & Development
2. Soils & Water
3. Ecology & Environmental Horticulture
4. Insects & Disease
5. Landscape Horticulture
6. Fruits & Nuts
7. Vegetables & Herbs
8. Life Skills & Career Exploration



Junior Master Gardener



Requirements for certification in Literature in the Garden:

- Belong to a registered JMG group.
- Complete any combination of 12 activities from the first seven teaching concepts.
- Complete one life skill/career exploration activity from the last teaching concept.
- Participate in one community service project.

Six Books featured in Literature in the Garden:

Plantzilla by Jerdine Nolen (Teaching Concept 2)

Miss Rumphius by Barbara Cooney (Teaching Concept 3)

Brother Eagle, Sister Sky illustrated by Susan Jeffers (Teaching Concept 4)

The Gardener by Sarah Stewart (Teaching Concept 5)

Tops and Bottoms retold by Author/Illustrator Janet Stevens (Teaching Concept 6)

Weslandia by Paul Fleischman (Teaching Concept 7)



Junior Master Gardener



Tips & Suggestions for Gardening with Children (from Junior Master Gardener Teacher's Guide):

1. Keep it simple and start small.
2. Allow children to have ownership in establishing garden and choosing varieties.
3. It's okay to be messy!
4. The garden doesn't have to be perfect.
5. Include plants for both immediate and delayed gratification.
Quick harvest/quick sprouting plants: radishes, leaf lettuce, spinach, bok choy, sunflowers, and remember to use transplants for our short season
6. Include visual and tactile plants.
7. Avoid poisonous or thorny plants.
8. Encourage exploration and take advantage of "teachable moments."
9. Don't be afraid to experiment.
10. HAVE FUN!



School Gardening Curriculum & Resources

Garden-Based Curriculum

- Junior Master Gardener; <http://www.jmgkids.us>
- LifeLab – lessons, trainings, curriculum, resources; www.lifelab.org
- GrowLab – National Gardening Association, indoor gardening; www.kidsgardening.org
- Project Food, Land and People – lesson plans for preK-12; www.foodlandpeople.org
- Growing Minds – lessons and activities, recipes and more; www.growing-minds.org
- Collective School Garden Network – <http://www.csgn.org/>

And many more...

Learn about Ag in AK

- Alaska Cooperative Extension Service; <http://www.uaf.edu/ces/>
- Alaska Division of Agriculture; www.dnr.alaska.gov/ag
- Alaska's Farm to School; http://dnr.alaska.gov/ag/ag_FTS.htm
- Alaska Ag in the Classroom; <http://www.fairbankssoilwater.org/education-agriculture-classroom.htm>
- Alaska School Garden Food Safety Guidelines;
<http://dnr.alaska.gov/ag/FarmToSchool/SGfoodsafetyguide.pdf>

And many more...



Thank You for Your Time!



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