

Quotes

“The Growing Connection is growing the next generation.” *Vint Cerf, Chief Internet Evangelist, Google and one of the Fathers of the Internet*

“The Growing Connection is on the cutting edge of the type of hands-on learning that makes education come alive for students, even as it strengthens global understanding and community. Wow.” *Professor Delaine Eastin, Former California Superintendent of Public Instruction.*

“I really liked talking to the students from Ghana on the computer...They had a lot of good questions and even answered all of ours. They have been growing with EarthBoxes for a long time so my class can learn a lot from them.” *Yonis Amaya, Seaton Elementary School, Washington, DC, USA*

“This was my first time getting my hands deep in soil and getting them very dirty.” *Joanna Bui, Cardinal Bevilacqua Community Center, Philadelphia, PA, USA*

“It’s very beautiful to watch how from a seed the life of a new plant begins. I watched how the little seeds grows into a new plant and how through watering it and feeding it, it grows. And with the passing of days this seed transforms into an adult plant and after flowers grow and from them the new fruits. Also I like sharing my experience with my other friends and how we are learning together.” *Diana Yareli Arellano Zaragoza, TGC Program at the University of Guadalajara, Guadalajara, Mexico*

“The most interesting subject for which I have learned so many things about is the agricultural sciences. I have learned how to grow and care for vegetables like cabbages, carrots, garden eggs (small white eggplants), tomatoes, hot peppers, green peppers and so on, without using chemicals on them.” *Bernard Arko, Cape Coast School for the Deaf, Cape Coast, Ghana*

Contributions

Tax-deductible contributions for The Growing Connection can be made to the **United States Committee for FAO.**

Please indicate that your contribution is for The Growing Connection.

United States Committee for FAO
P.O. Box 33145
Washington, DC 20033-3145
(800) 252-0455

How to Join

- Download an application from The Growing Connection website to be an official TGC school, youth group or community site.
- Buy an EarthBox and enjoy the rewards of growing your own food.
www.earthbox.com.
Department Code: M-TGC
- Call 1-800-252-0455 to volunteer.

www.thegrowingconnection.org

The Growing Connection™
Cultivating Food, Connecting Minds, Harvesting Hope



growth

choice

innovation

access

science

communication

horticulture



In The Growing Connection, middle school children around the world—from downtown Chicago to rural Nebraska, to villages in Ghana and barrios and pueblos in Mexico—establish highly sustainable school vegetable gardens, while being linked through IT connectivity. Whether the children are struggling with hunger or childhood obesity, this project re-introduces the rewards and joys of growing fresh, nutritious produce.

Together, as peers, students become “citizen scientists”, collecting data on rainfall, soil conditions, sunlight, plant growth and produce. Using the TGC web site, students upload their data and exchange information, knowledge and ideas as fellow researchers and scientists. They interact with an online network of experts and learn about life science, nutrition and sustainable use of natural resources.

The Growing Connection (TGC) is a people-driven pilot project developed by the Food & Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO-www.fao.org) to realize innovative, sustainable solutions to hunger, malnutrition and poverty worldwide.

Students around the globe grow food together using low-cost water-efficient and sustainable food growing techniques to fight hunger, to learn, and to earn income through entrepreneurship.

Using IT connectivity and the Internet students capture relevant information, contact expert sources and communicate with each other fostering innovation and cultural exchange.



The students learn in a very hands-on way about sustainable food systems, different cultures and how the world is connected. TGC promotes international respect and a sense of stewardship towards the earth and its people.



As schools in the United States are paired with schools in developing countries, students (and their teachers) become “vegetable-growing electronic pen-pals”.

The EarthBox, a low-cost, highly water-efficient food-growing system is central to The Growing Connection. The EarthBox enables participants everywhere to follow the exact same water-saving, food-growing activities.



Cultivating Food, Connecting Minds, Harvesting Hope

The Growing Connection