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## MUCH TO DO ABOUT GARDENING WITH YOUTH

Dig, Plant and Grow these youth gardening resources – books, internet websites, models for youth gardens, crafts and grants. OH MY!

- ❖ Herbert Kohl, educator and writer, wrote a theory I use with children when they learn about horticulture and gardening. Stated simply, Kohl talks about “What, So What, then Now What.” What they learned, what does that mean in application, and Now What will they do with that knowledge. Will the children plan a garden to share with their family or teach and share their knowledge with other children in a setting?
- ❖ Confucius, the Chinese philosopher and reformer, also said, “I hear and I forget, I see and I remember, and I do and I understand.” His quote affirms that children learn by doing and teaching.
- ❖ Children today are high level computer navigators. Allow the youth to research Land-Grant colleges and universities for info. on horticulture and gardening. The publications found at each web site contain a plethora of information on veggies, fruit trees, herbs, berry bushes, flowers, construction of raised beds and much more. They just search for Purdue, Michigan State, University of Minnesota, Ohio State or any on the list. Then click on Horticulture and search for the subjects they need.
- ❖ Again the book, “Roots, Shoots...,” by Lovejoy contains on pages 1-12 a List of Top 20 Plants for Kids and on pages 110-113, Lovejoy gives directions for a Children’s Herb Garden with measurements, soil preparation and list of plants.

Books for Youth Gardening:

- ❖ “Let’s Garden,” by Clara Lidstrom and AnnaKarin Nyberg, Little Gestalten Publishers, 2015. Planting projects and gardening crafts written by children for children.
- ❖ “How does your garden grow? Great Gardening for green-fingered Kids, by

Clare Matthews, Octopus Publishing Group, 2005. Includes fun with plants, growing food, wildlife in the garden, things to make and do.

- ❖ “The Garden Classroom: Hands on Activities in Math, Science, Literacy and Art,” by Cathy James, 2015.
- ❖ “Gardening for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders and Special Education Needs: Engaging with Nature to Combat Anxiety, Promote Sensory Integration and Build Social Skills, By Natasha Etherington, 2012.
- ❖ “Hollyhocks and Honeybees: Garden Projects for Young Children,” by Sara Starbuck, 2002.
- ❖ “Fairy Garden Handbook,” by Liza Gardner Walsh, 2013.
- ❖ “The Children’s Kitchen Garden: a Book of Gardening, Cooking and Learning,” by Georgeanne Brennan, 1997.

Web Sites for Children to Explore:

- ❖ [www.yardmap.org](http://www.yardmap.org) Explore Habitat Network.
- ❖ [www.compostfoundation.org](http://www.compostfoundation.org)
- ❖ [www.composting.org](http://www.composting.org)
- ❖ [www.wildflower.org/plants](http://www.wildflower.org/plants)
- ❖ [arborday.org](http://arborday.org)
- ❖ [PlantPals.com](http://PlantPals.com)
- ❖ [Knowplants.org](http://Knowplants.org)
- ❖ [Plantfacts.osu.edu](http://Plantfacts.osu.edu) Ohio State
- ❖ [www.shelburnefarms.org-camps](http://www.shelburnefarms.org-camps)
- ❖ [greenzonelife.com](http://greenzonelife.com) and [www.gardentracker.com](http://www.gardentracker.com) have journal pages.

Until next thyme, enjoy coaching and guiding youth in the garden. Sheila Hamilton-Taylor, Advanced Master Gardener and Member of TGOA Youth Gardening Committee. Contact Sheila at [lavenderlady@comcast.net](mailto:lavenderlady@comcast.net)