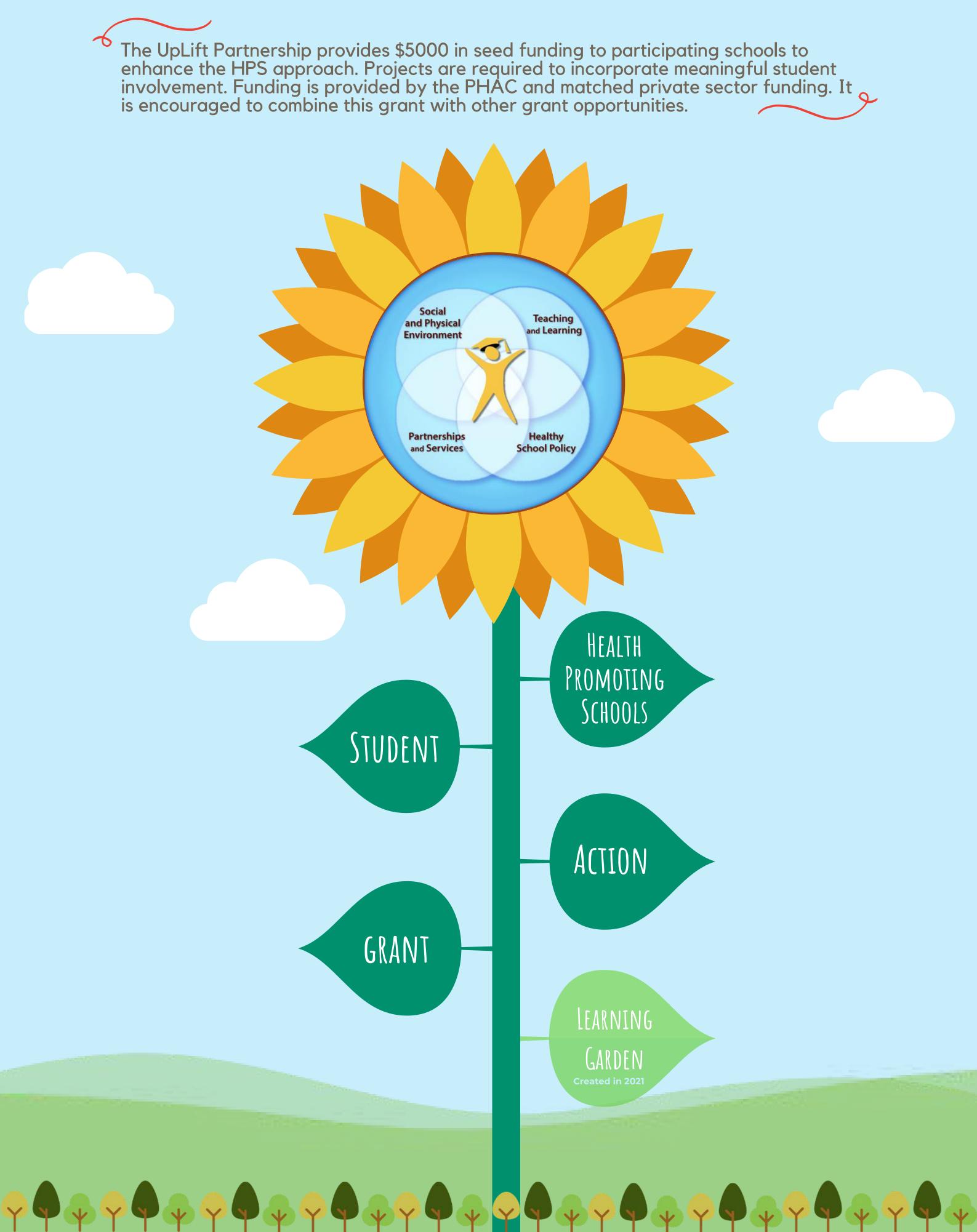


Promoting Healthy Learning Environments With the UpLift Partnership



LEARNING GARDEN



WHAT IS IT?

A learning garden is a school or community garden that provides opportunities for students to learn about sustainable food production, grow fruits and vegetables for breakfast and lunch programs, and learn to be leaders. Learning gardens provide a hands on learning opportunity that can be integrated into school curriculum, and can teach students about various subjects including biology, food and nutrition and many more.

WHO SHOULD BE INVOLVED?

Planning learning garden means engaging different members of the school community:

- Students
- Teachers
- Principals
- Regional Centre for Education/Conseil scolaire acadien provincial
- Nourish Nova Scotia
- Parents
- Local nurseries and landscaping companies
- Community members (i.e. to help maintain garden during summer months)
- Other community partners

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

Learning gardens provide students with valuable experience in sustainable food production. Students will learn about gardening which will include skills in planning, planting, harvesting and cooking. They will also gain experience in project coordination and leadership including recruiting volunteers, scheduling maintenance and budgeting as well as increased problem-solving skills. This will build a sense of pride and accomplishment among students involved in the project.

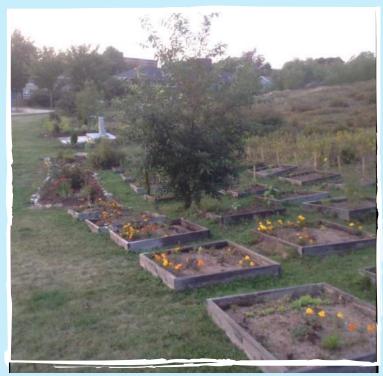
LEARNING GARDEN - LOCAL EXAMPLES



<u>City Kidds Escape Society Community Garden</u> (Halifax)







Ropeworks Community Garden (Dartmouth)



Sackville Community Food Garden (Lower Sackville)







Dalhousie Urban Garden (Halifax)







LEARNING GARDEN



BUDGET - SAMPLE

Equipment & Supplies Garden beds Soil Seeds Total: \$2000

GROW EAT LEARN - NOURISH NS GUIDING PRACTICES

The Grow Eat Learn Guiding Practices from Nourish Nova Scotia are a set of guidelines that are adaptable to each unique school that will help unlock the full potential of their school food garden. They help envision the physical space and how the school food garden can serve the needs of the school community. The guiding practices focus on various areas of the school food garden and bring attention to topics such as learning opportunities and physical safety. They are intended to strengthen and integrate gardens into the school community and learning environment.

To learn more about the Grow Eat Learn Guiding Practices visit: <u>Grow Eat Learn: A School</u> <u>Food Garden Program</u>

Find out more about Learning Gardens

- 1. Nourish Nova Scotia Learning Gardens
- 2. Community Gardens Best Practices Toolkit
- 3. <u>Halifax Community Gardens</u>
- 4. <u>6 Benefits of Garden-Based Learning</u>