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Environmental Education in School Gardens: A Ground to Blossom?

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The worsening impacts of climate change call for adopting strategic and immediate actions simultaneously. Educating the new generations about environmental problems and fostering their environmental stewardship can serve both current and future targets. Accordingly, educational programs all over the world are being called upon to prioritize environmental education (EE). From a practical stance, garden-based learning is an instructional strategy that uses the garden as a dynamic teaching setting. School gardens appear to be a promising tool in EE, and thereby addressing gaps in EE policy implementation.

My research investigates the role of school gardens in fostering connections between children, the community, and the environment, in the context of Ontario schools. This project advances knowledge about school gardens as a setting that nurtures environmental awareness and stewardship of students from all backgrounds. The project also informs teachers about their important role as agents of change in EE.