



Students get hands dirty with garden education

Left: Cari Byrnes, a fourth-grade teacher at Brookside Elementary School in Yorktown, talks to her students about their assignments Sept. 22 at the school's Cultivation Station. Byrnes, along with nurse Elaine Goodwin and Laura Tolosi, director of the wellness program, created the station to expose children to gardening and better eating habits.

Below: Stephanie Ducady, 12, picks beans during a life-skills class at the Lakeland Copper Beech School. Begun in April, the Environmental Outdoor Classroom allows students to plant, garden and work outdoors. "This program bridges the gap between special education and general education," said special-education teacher Michael Cerniglia.

Below, left: Cerniglia works with students Beth Davis and Charlie Cardillo, both 13, as they put edging around a garden plot.

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