

KIDS CAN GROW



Presentation

By

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The Seed is Planted



- in 2006 husband Chuc conceived this idea when we got a grant for the Farmers Markets on Manitoulin Island from Fednor
- initially started with 2 schools as a pilot project
- program was designed to bring awareness of Farmers Markets and to have kids grow bedding plants and produce to bring to local markets
- emerged from a need to bring back lost gardening skills and a need to address food insecurity on the Island
- now in 2017 - we involve 8 schools, 1 youth group, a longterm care home, an Anishinabe elder centre and we have community and school gardens, over 30 individual gardens, and we have community feasts, harvest festivals, and fall fairs

The Program

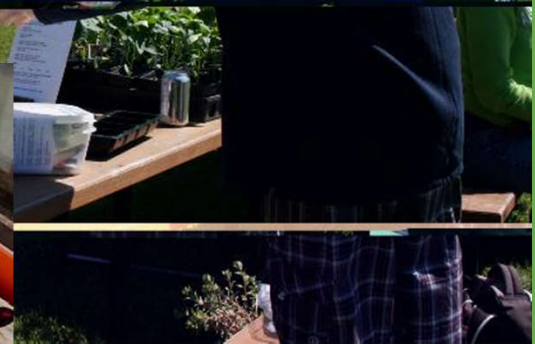
- storytelling
- introduce planting process (by Gardening with Bella - a local clown)
- planting, transplanting, caring for the plants
 - water, light, temperature, hardening off
- teachings on the Cycle of Life, seasons, 4 elements, Parts of a plant, water, soil nutrients, composting - we develop a new theme each year - this year sprouts and spores
- traditional teachings - water, mother earth, four directions, the Three Sisters (corn, beans and squash)
- cross-curricular activities - art, drama, math, science, language, physical exercise, cooking, social skills, networking
- coming to markets - bedding plants in spring, produce in fall
- planting and caring for gardens
- harvesting and fall fairs



Program Pics



Impact of the Program



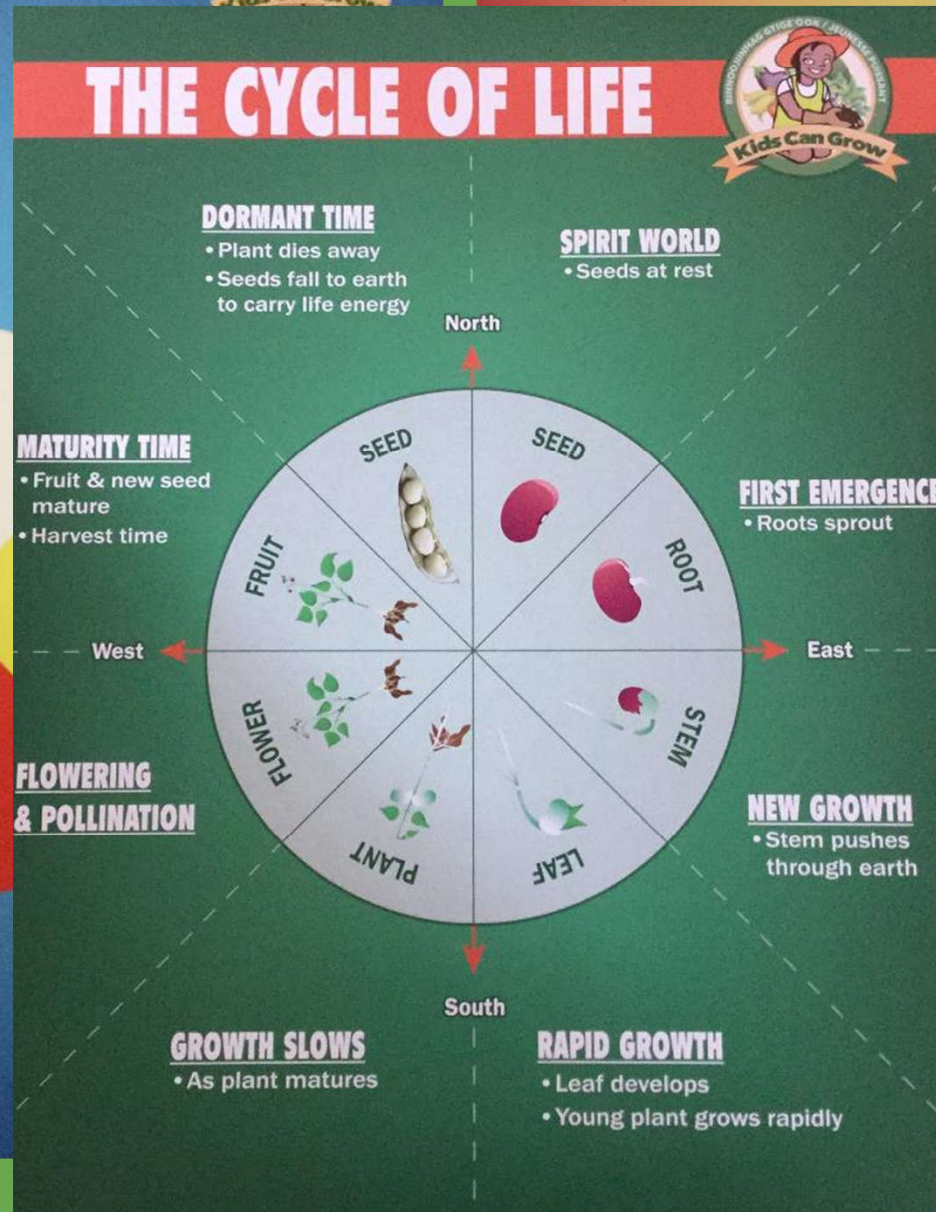
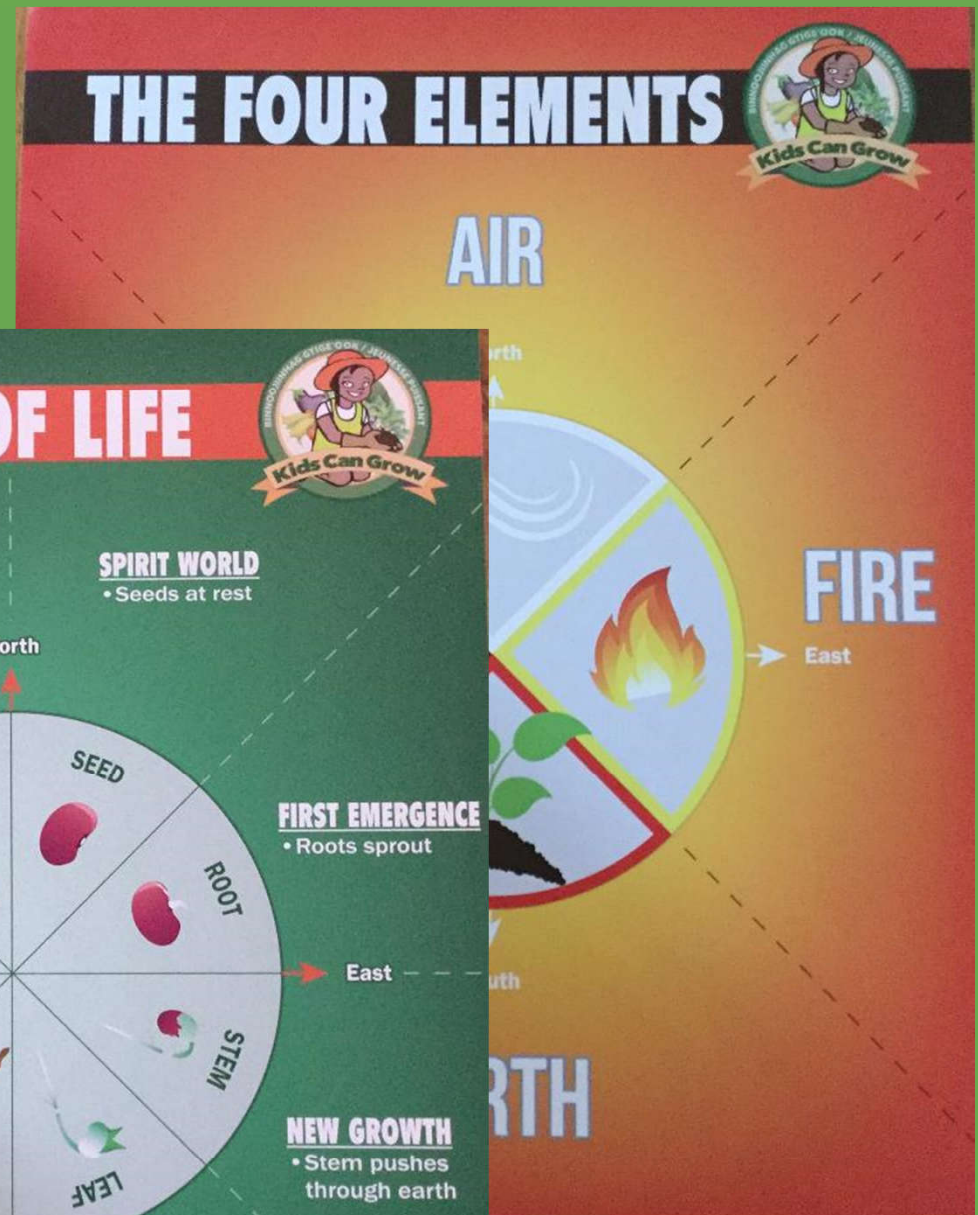
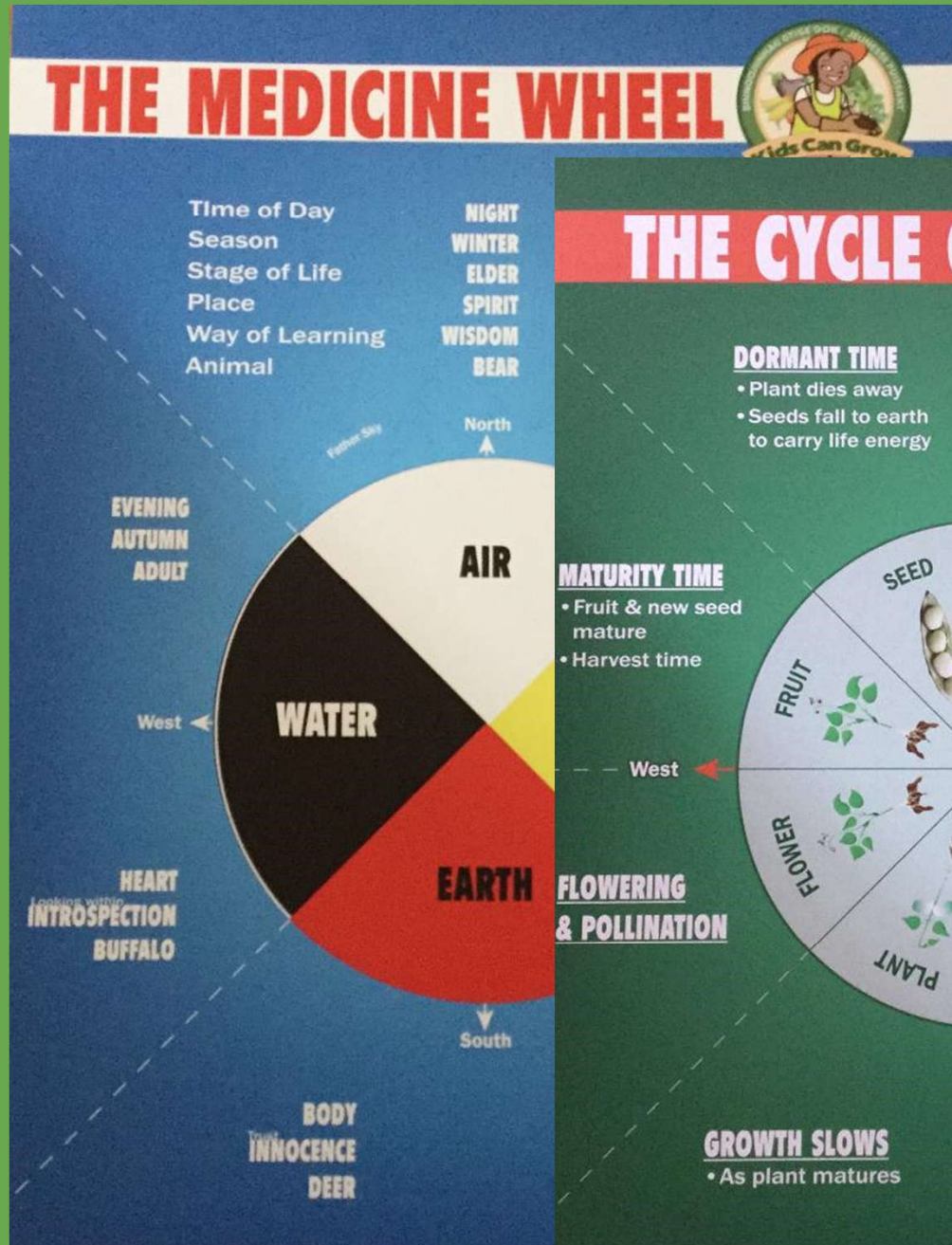
Impact of the Program

- Kids get involved in healthy lifestyle - more active, better nutrition, happier
- a great market event for kids, vendors and customers
- increases attendance and sales at local markets and interest in local produce
- plants seeds for future growers
- increases awareness of growing, accessing and consuming local produce
- creates improved nutritional outcomes
- creates a LOT of goodwill and community spirit
- incorporates traditional teachings by Anishinabe Elders
- an increase in self awareness, cultural awareness and appreciation, and understanding. tolerance of differences

Our Supporters

- Teachers, Farmers, Gardeners
- Schools, Farmers Markets
- Child Poverty Task Force
- Noojmowin Teg Health Centre
- Government Grants - FedNor, LAMBAC, HKCC, Trillium
- SDHU - Sudbury District Health Unit
- Manitoulin Family Resources
- Companies (Manitoulin Transport, William Dam, Lee Valley, Meekers Compost, Randy Noble Construction, Taylor Sawmill. RONA)
- Private Donors
- Service Clubs (Lion's, Horticultural Society, Food Network)

Posters



To Grow From Here

- find ways to continue viability - government grants have been very supportive so far
- continue to involve young people - even those who have finished school
- get elders in the community involved to help out in the summer time
- involve daycare groups who may be located in schools to tend the school gardens in the summer
- get the curriculum formalized and adopted into the Ontario school curriculum to make it available and working in all Ontario schools

Thank you
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..and now we have a short video of our program