## Garden Project

| Step            | Description  | Curricular<br>Connection   | Supplies | Cost |
|-----------------|--|--|----------|------|
| 1: Pre-<br>plan | <ul> <li>Decide on a possible location for your garden</li> <li>Does it get good light throughout the year?</li> <li>Does the location have access to irrigation or will you have to hand water?</li> <li>How will the location get water throughout the summer?</li> <li>Will the location add to the campus in a positive way?</li> <li>Is the location protected enough for your needs?</li> <li>Is the location protected enough for your needs?</li> <li>Is there a possibility to use rainwater?</li> <li>Does your district have limitations on digging? If so, how will this impact your timeline?</li> <li>Depending on your admin, run the project by them first for approval (some admin may not need an in depth proposal)</li> <li>Check in with grounds maintenance - will you need their help with maintaining the garden or with setting up irrigation?</li> <li>Outline how the project will align with your standards and curriculum plan.</li> <li>How many ways can you get students involved in the choice making?</li> </ul> | Abiotic/biotic<br>growth factors,<br>macromolecules,<br>nutrient cycling | n/a      | \$0  |

| 2: Plan                   | <ul> <li>Plot the dimensions of your garden         <ul> <li>Students can design a standardized way to plot the garden</li> <li>Collect abiotic &amp; biotic data (for example)</li> <li>Soil pH data at specific transects of your garden</li> <li>Nitrates and phosphates in soil</li> <li>Existing plants on campus</li> <li>Insects present on campus</li> <li>Average rainfall on campus</li> <li>Grid out water features and abiotic features with students</li> <li>Use text resources focusing on your ecosystem to design water needs for your garden</li> <li>Plan around the data your students collected</li> <li>Select plants for the garden using previously collected data - connect to your driving question - How can we improve the biodiversity on our campus? Select diverse plants that attract diverse pollinators</li> <li>Grid out possible locations for plants in garden using plant biotic and abiotic needs</li> <li>High water need plants go close to water sources</li> <li>High light requirement plants should get the most sun exposure</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | Abiotic/biotic<br>growth factors,<br>photosynthesis,<br>water quality,<br>experimental<br>design | Slates<br>Markers<br>Lab notebooks<br>pH strips<br>Nitrate testing kits<br>Phosphate testing<br>kits<br>String<br>Meter sticks<br>Stakes | For 8 lab<br>groups:<br>\$100                                     |
|---------------------------|---|--|--|---|
| 3: Plant<br>the<br>garden | <ul> <li>Dig out water features first</li> <li>Evaluate as you go to see where water is flowing - is it reaching the parts of your garden you need it to reach?</li> <li>For the following procedures, you can have students use text resources to create their own set of "planting"</li> </ul>  | Water quality,<br>SOPs   | Plants<br>Soil<br>Mulch<br>Spades<br>Shovels<br>Buckets<br>Hose  | \$600<br>(for all<br>organic<br>and native<br>plants and<br>soil) |

|            | procedures" to use<br>Dig out holes for plants<br>Go 1-2 inches bigger than container<br>Keep edges of the hole uneven not smooth<br>Plants go into designated spots<br>Loosen up root ball gently<br>Fill empty space with a 5:1 mix of soil to mulch<br>Create a berm around the plant stem<br>Water slowly but deeply  |  | Water<br>→ If possible,<br>borrow gardening<br>gear from<br>maintenance or<br>Agriculture class |   |
|------------|---|--|---|---|
| 4: Monitor | <ul> <li>Create teams of students with a weekly task of caring and monitoring the garden</li> <li>Periodically, the whole class collects data on the garden, for example:         <ul> <li>Plant survivability/growth</li> <li>Soil quality &amp; nutrients</li> <li>Insect activity</li> <li>Public engagement with garden</li> </ul> </li> <li>Use data to make changes to your garden</li> </ul> | Natural selection,<br>biotic and abiotic<br>factors,<br>experimental<br>design | See above   | - |