Intergenerational Landed Learning Project

Landed Learning unites generations to care for the Earth through exploring, growing, harvesting, cooking, and eating together in community

Last year in numbers

102   Elementary students
31    Secondary students
76    Adult Volunteers
47    Volunteers returning for 2 or more years
113   UBC Education students completing garden-based practica or course experiences
2     School-wide Professional Development workshops in garden-based learning

2017 in a bean shell

Children, scarlet runner beans, and a community of learners all grew strong this year at the Intergenerational Landed Learning Project (LL)! We are proud of the new curriculum in garden planning and new child-tested recipes we developed and now share on our website: landedlearning.educ.ubc.ca. We worked with 11 teacher candidates who gained experience teaching in gardens and brought expertise to develop new curriculum.

We grew rich partnerships this year as well! The UBC Faculty of Education integrated learning with LL into five courses and three practicum experiences, connecting the next generation of teachers with learning from the land. LL continued our partnership with Fresh Roots, employing and developing leadership skills among 31 youth who grew and sold healthy food at school. Partnering with Cedar Isle Farm and Discovery Organics allowed us to develop curriculum that teaches children the path grains take to become flour…and ultimately delicious student-made pizza!

Speaking of Inspiration

This is one of the best classrooms for biology. I was surprised by the way the students made connections between what they learn in classroom and what they see outside. They learn to appreciate how much work is involved in a carrot…so much work for each bite of food! —2017 LL Practicum Teacher Candidate
Getting STARTed
Landed Learning students share hands-on learning about pollinators, from Science to Art (START)

Landed Learning participants transformed their fears into fascination through their experiences with bees this year. Students maintained mason beehives, released young bees by hand, and peered inside a honeybee hive. Most tasted the bees' honey; some even fed the bees honey off of their fingers! Students researched bees, wasps, beetles, hummingbirds, and other pollinators and created beautiful works of art to express their scientific knowledge. They are raising awareness about the importance of pollinators and how we can protect them through a traveling “Pollinators are the key to life” exhibit at ArtStarts in Schools gallery from June 22 until November 17, 2017 and Beatty Biodiversity Museum from December 2017-May 2018.

We’re learning and growing too!

Our research
Questionnaires and focus groups help us understand impacts of LL.
- Children who participated in LL increased their willingness to taste new foods and use kitchen knives safely.
- They can stay calm near bees because they are less afraid of them than they used to be.
- They became more comfortable sharing their ideas and working with older people.

Growing into 2017-18
Our research also showed that students want more choice in their learning. Supported by recommendations of the new BC curriculum, we are developing an environmental inquiry program next year. Participating students will have the opportunity to choose areas of personal interest and explore deeply with the mentorship of our Farm Friend volunteers.

Indigenous Knowledge
Students from the Aboriginal Focus School will join us on the Farm in the coming year for opportunities to learn traditional knowledge of the Musqueam land and of elders. We will be learning alongside students, striving to bring experiences to all students that promote cultural, social, physical, and emotional wellbeing.

Traditional skills meet new technology
This year, participants communicated their learning about traditional technologies (like wheelbarrows) using 21st century technology (instagram!). Follow us #landed_learning to see students’ photographs and writing!