

Case Study for Growing Schools Website

Title	Garden Tools
Subtitle	Entry Level Land Maintenance - Use of Common Garden Tools
Location	Westlands School Thornaby on Tees
Aim	To introduce students to common garden tools and there uses.
Action	Students were shown a slide show of some garden tools and the appropriate uses for them.
Outcome	Students engaged in practical activities to improve a derelict/neglected area within the school grounds. In so doing, they not only improved the area but gave encouragement to other students to carry out improvement tasks.
Details	<p>The students involved in this lesson were part of the 'Land Maintenance' accreditation group through the WJEC Examination board. This was their first taste of outside practical work.</p> <p>The purpose of the activities was to learn the correct procedures for using a range of garden tools. Some more entrepreneurial students identified a number of applications for their new found skills, for example, they could help older relatives who could not manage their own gardens. Some of the students were also aware that this could be something they could take up vocationally.</p> <p>After a short presentation, to familiarize the students with the tools that they would be using, the students were issued with personal protective equipment (PPE) and led to the garden area. Students observed demonstrations of the different tasks, including the correct use of the tools required. The students were then given tasks to complete themselves. The students were rotated through each task in order to allow</p>

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	<p>all involved to experience using the tools.</p> <p>The students were all keen and enthusiastic and made good progress. Very soon they were able to observe huge changes in the area that they were working upon and they were clearly pleased with the good work carried out.</p> <p>The digging and soil cultivation task had succeeded in tiding a previously weeded area, providing fine soil for planting. The raking task had cleared the surrounding area and filled a number of compost bins. The pruning task had made the area seem much lighter and more spacious.</p> <p>The group was really encouraged by the results of their efforts and became eager to work on other areas of the garden at a later date.</p>
Images	
Resources	http://www.videojug.com/tag/gardening
Sectors	
Subjects	Science, Land Maintenance, Land Studies, John Muir Award
Key Stages	KS 3 & 4
Contact	