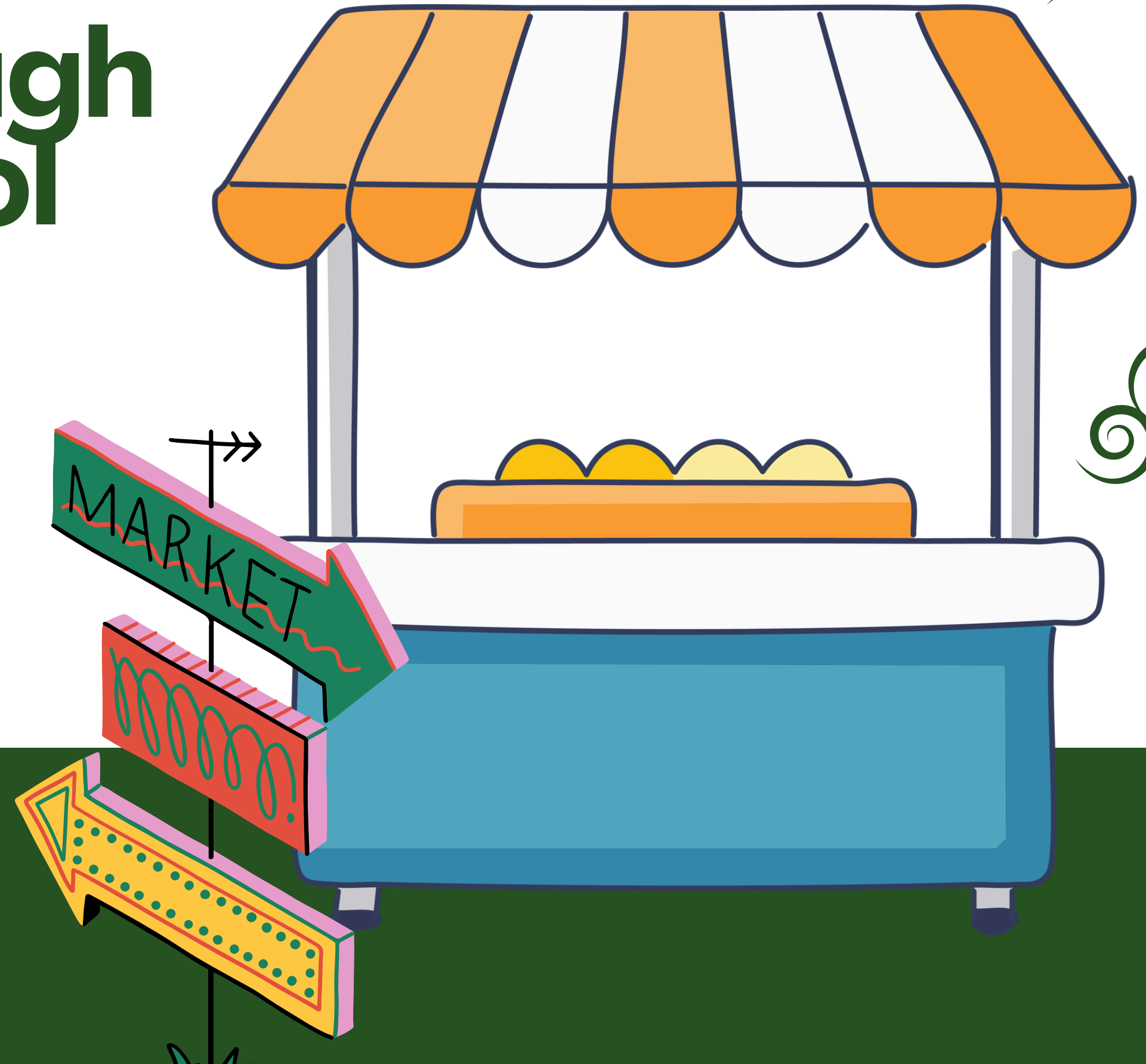


Cultivating Community and Leadership Through Our Middle School Farmers Market

Presented by Elizabeth Blank & Beth Joseph



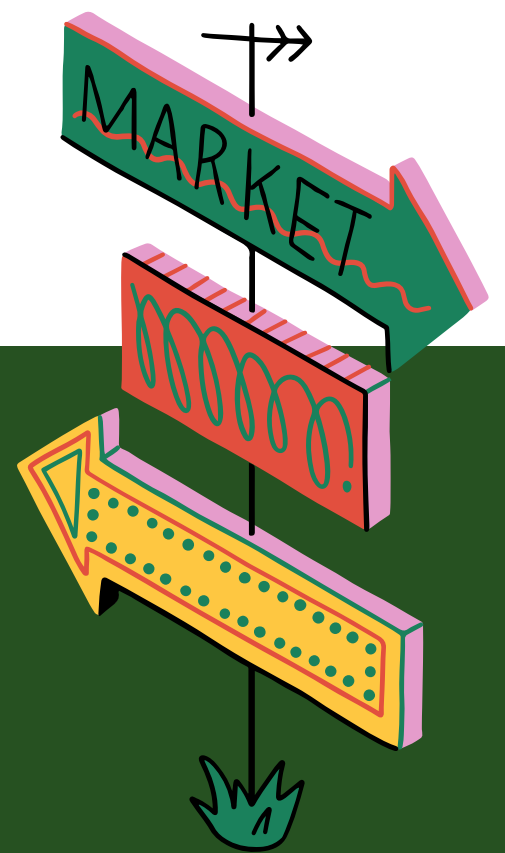
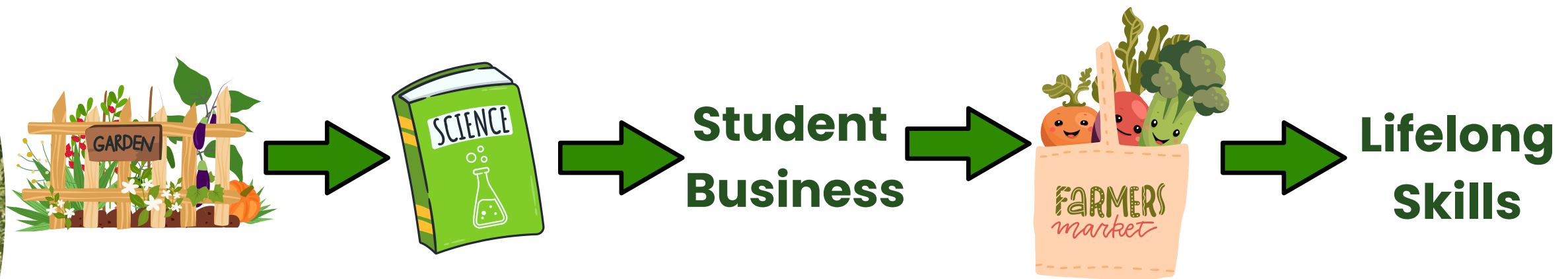
Activity #1: What is the most authentic learning experience your students have ever had?



Our Challenge



How can our school garden become the catalyst for authentic learning, student entrepreneurship, and meaningful community connections?



Why a farmers market?

Community



Curriculum



Student Voice



ENGAGED Learning through the

Hastings Farmer's Market

Solution Seekers

- Testing and retesting product
- Sustainability of HMS Garden
- Logistics of market planning
- How money flows through the market

Skilled Communicator

- Communication with industry leaders
- Communicating logistics with building staff
- Conflict resolution within teams

Responsible & Resilient

- Trial and error with product
- Learning importance of deadlines
- Building support within teams



Creative

- Product ideas & design
- Marketing & vendor booth design
- Musical Performances
- Graphic design for T-Shirt

Open Minded & Empathetic

- Open to constructive feedback
- Being open minded to customer needs
- Engaging with customers
- Open minded to group ideas

Well Balanced

- Finding balance in work time with market needs and socialization
- The process of creating something to bring community together

From Garden to Community

School Garden	Science	Student Leadership	Student Entrepreneurship	Community Engagement	Student Showcase	Hastings Farmers Market
The roots of authentic learning!	Hands-on investigations, biology, chemistry, agriculture, sustainability.	25 student leaders serving on the planning, finance and marketing teams	50 student vendor booths, designed, produced, marketed and sold their own products	20 Kids Corner booths student designed hands-on activities for children & families	Over 20 student performing artists on two different stages.	Bringing together learning, leadership, entrepreneurship, & community.





Hastings Farmers Market



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ITTeU5NFR8>

Activity #2: What would your students own?

If your students planned this event...
What decisions could YOU let them
make instead of adults?

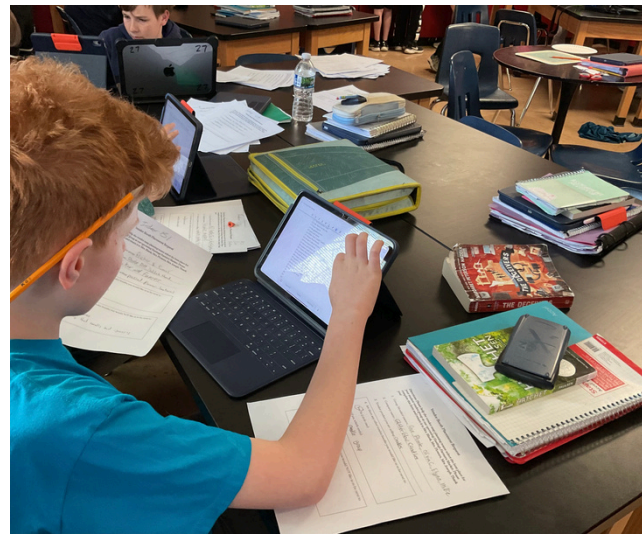




Student Vendors



Budgeted



Designed



Advertised

Priced



Sold



Learning Beyond the Test

Chemistry

Science & Agriculture

Chemical Change

Chemical change includes baking/heating with a reaction like changing form.

Physical Change

Physical change includes mixing ingredients so they are still the same ingredients just in different form.

Agriculture

Our agriculture comes from farmers producing flour, eggs, oats, and more.



Photosynthesis

Plant Propagation

Soil

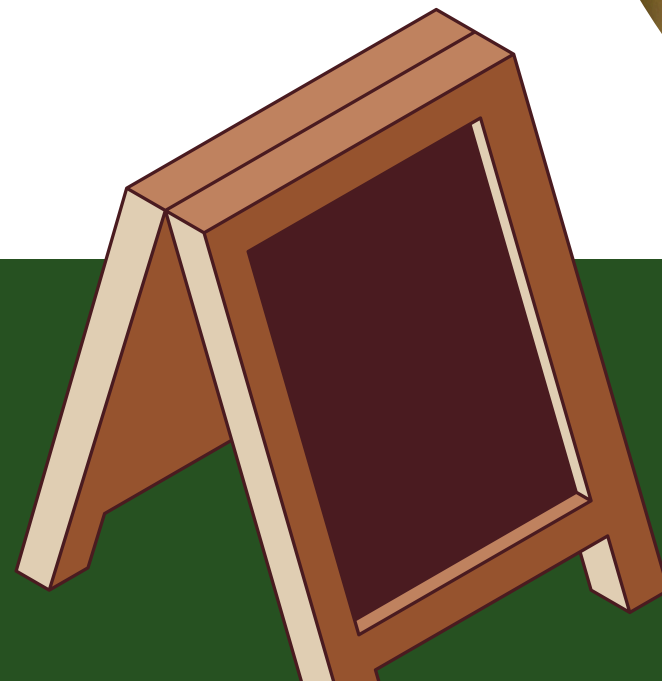


Compost

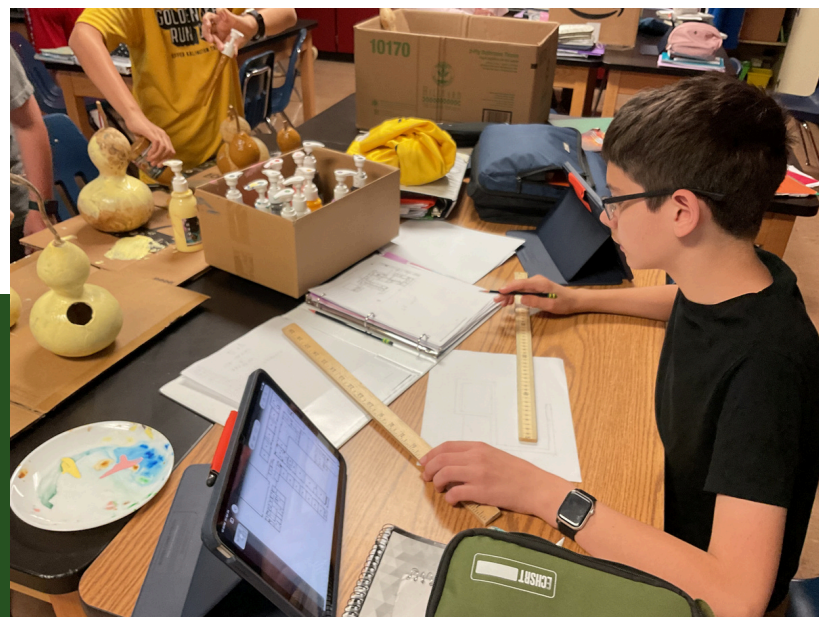




Activity #3: How could your curriculum become people experience rather than simply assess?



Kids Corner



STEAM

Transforming a School Project to a Community Celebration





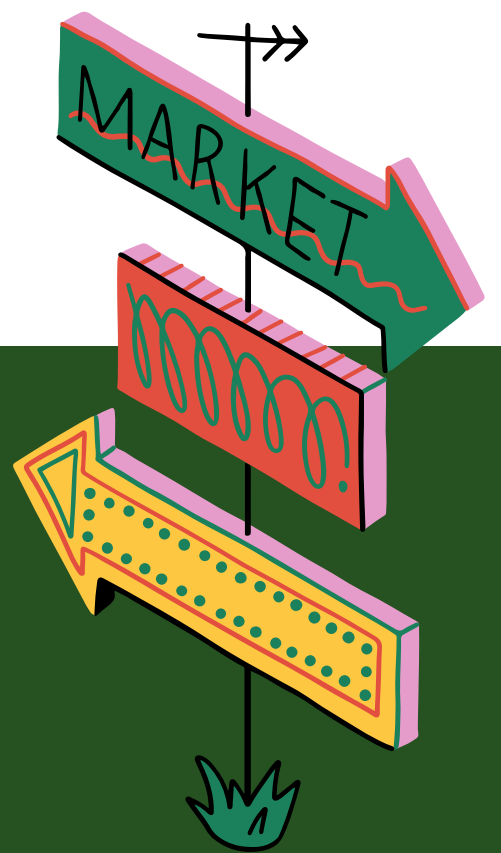
Behind the Scenes

August	Hastings Farmers Market Committee Meets to expand this year's farmers market and make it schoolwide
Monthly	Hastings Farmers Market Committee Meets monthly to divide up tasks.
January	Town Hall meetings to introduce the farmers market to each grade level and celebrate last year's success.
February	Introduce the farmers market project to sixth grade students, roles and responsibilities, and students complete Google survey to select roles and teams. Announce teams and planning team sets up and meets with administrators, resource officer and head custodian to begin planning for the farmers market.
March- May	Begin planning, designing, marketing, building, packaging, and creating science and agriculture behind their products' infographics.

Teacher's Role



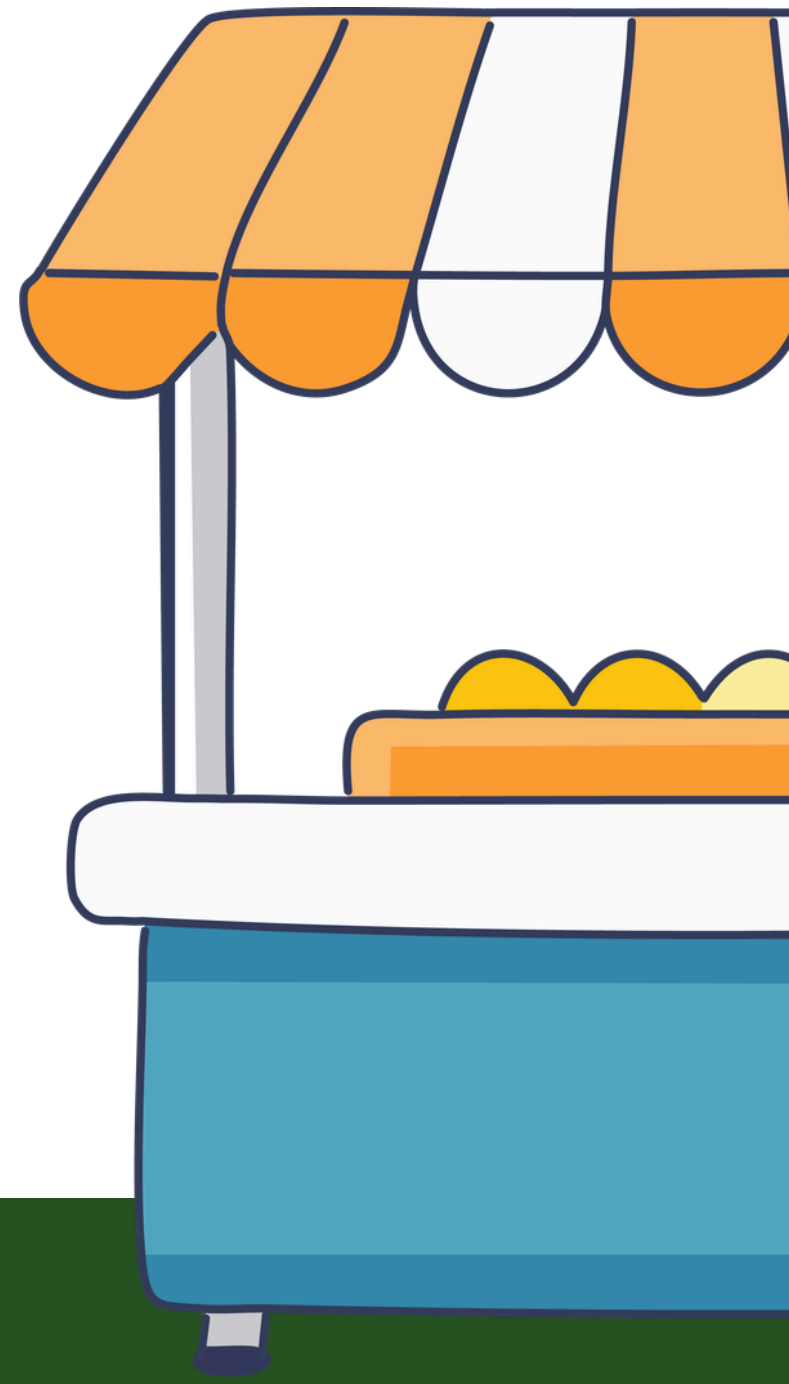
Project Teacher
Asking Questions
Helping Students Decide
Facilitating Solutions



Activity #4: Discussion

How would you solve it?

1. Students disagree over pricing.
2. Students run out of products.
3. A vendor doesn't finish.
4. Rain forecast.





Challenges



1. Money
2. Staff Involvement
3. Student Disagreements
4. Inventory



Student Reflections



How did it feel knowing your sales helped raise money for the garden and future farmers markets? “It feels awesome because I know that I made a difference and a little part of me is going to be in all the other Farmer’s Markets.”

How do you think the farmers market impacted your school or community? “It brought us together.”

How did it feel to see people enjoying or buying something you created and/or planned? “It made me feel really good because we had spent a lot of time working on them and seeing someone like our product made me feel really good!”

What advice would you give incoming 5th graders about the farmers market? “Don’t worry about making everything perfect because it will all come together in the end! My group and I got into arguments all the time, but don’t worry, because it blows over quickly! Also, do not over-stress about the market, because you have awesome science teachers who will make sure you are set up for success. ”

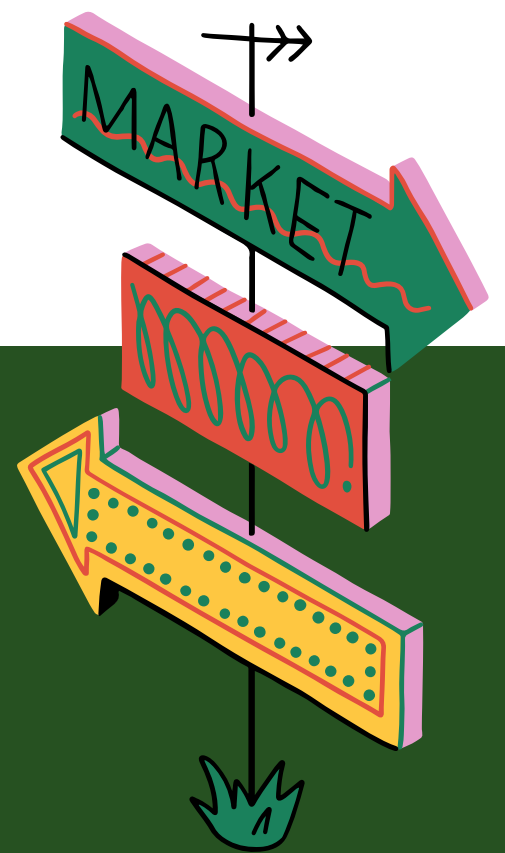


Staff Reflections



What surprised us?
What we'd change?
Biggest growth?
Favorite moments?

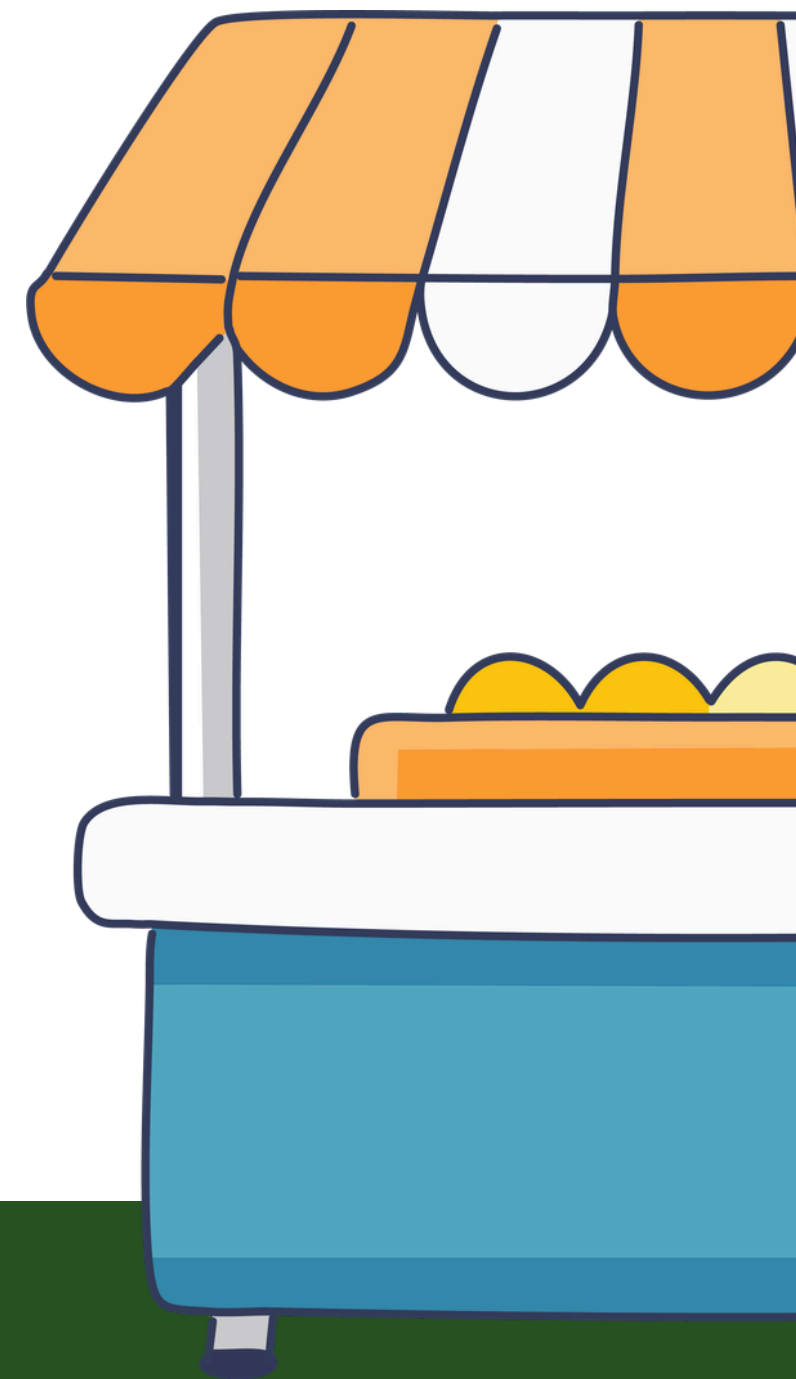
"I had a few parents come up to me talking about how proud they were of their children, and that they had never seen them talk so professionally to other adults. "



Community Impact



Parent Story
Local Partnerships—*Common Green*
Funds Raised
Garden Improvements



Activity #5: Seed, Sprout, Grow

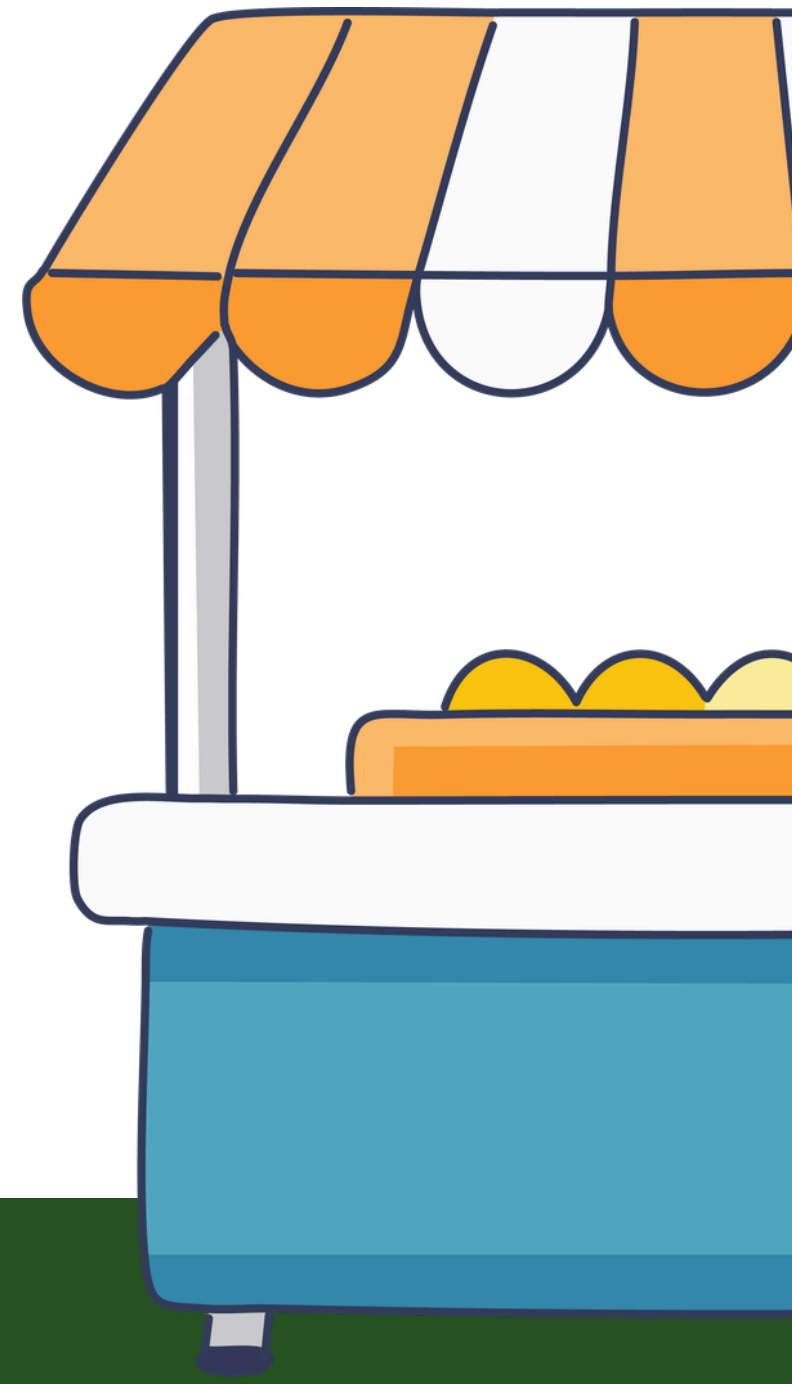
1. **One new idea.**
2. **One thing you are already doing.**
3. **One authentic learning experience you will design.**



How would this look at your school?

Instead of farmers markets...

STEM Expo
History Festival
Community Café
Maker Fair
Cultural Celebration
School Store
Outdoor Learning Day
Student Museum
Innovation Showcase
Career Fair
Garden Market
Service Learning Project





Takeaways



Student Ownership
Authentic Audience
Real Problems
Community Partnerships
Giving Back

Thank You.

Hastings Farmers Market Project Handout

Team Responsibilities & Calendar Due Dates

Hastings Farmers Market Team Selection Google Form

Science & Agriculture Document

Team Sales Log

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