

ASSIGNMENT 1: ADOPT AN ORGANIC FARM

Here's how:

Contact a nearby organic farm that works with and trains communities and students on organic farming

The public and students can adopt a plot for a token sum to plant vegetables and herbs

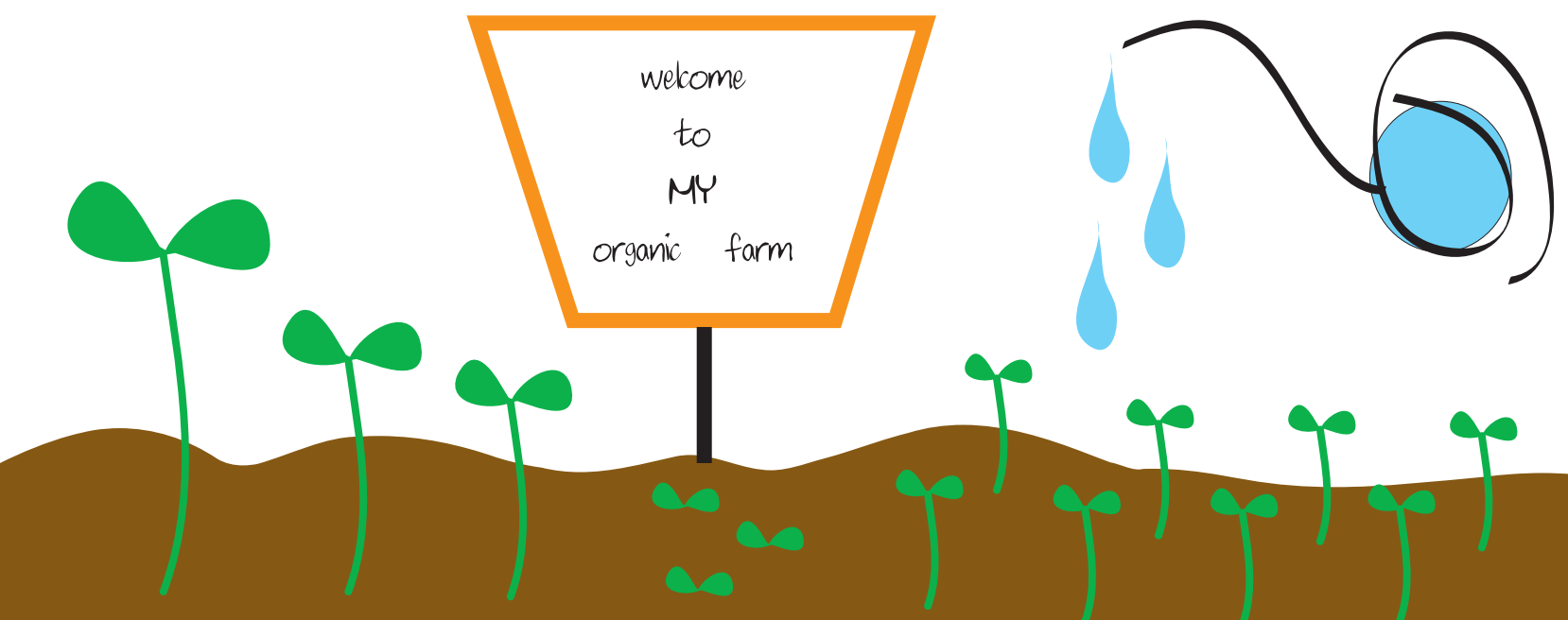
Work on the farm such as weeding, fertilising with compost and watering the plot can be done on a weekends only basis or on a bi-monthly work schedule

You can make your own compost at the farm by collecting kitchen waste from home, the community or school. Use this compost to fertilise your plot

Training on organic agriculture methods can be arranged with the farm manager

At the end of the planting cycle, vegetables and herbs from the plot can be harvested and distributed among family and friends or students in a school

Option: After the project is completed and you are still interested in working at the farm, you can sign up as a volunteer to help during your free time.



ASSIGNMENT 2: SCHOOL COMPOSTING PROJECT

Here's how:

Get the permission of the school principal for this project as some land is needed as a site for composting.

Arrange with the canteen management to send their uncooked waste to the composting facility

Arrange with the school gardener to send garden waste to the composting facility

Arrange with the households in the community to send in their kitchen waste that can be composted. Designate two days a week for collection.

Make sure the compost heap is maintained as in the guide in Module 3.

Draw up a task schedule that assigns a team of students to maintain the compost heap on a rotational basis

When the compost is ready, arrange with the gardener to use it for the school garden

Alternatively, the respective households in the community can also buy the compost for a token sum. This is especially convenient when the school has a surplus of compost.

Money from the sales can go towards repairs in the school or buying more books for the library, etc.



ASSIGNMENT 3: CRAFT FROM RECYCLABLE MATERIAL

Here's how:

Collect recyclable materials such as old clothes, aluminium cans, magazines, and such.

Refer to Nature Craft tips on page ?? for ideas on how you can make nice things out of old stuff.



ASSIGNMENT 4: SET UP A SCHOOL HERBAL GARDEN & ORCHARD

Here's how:



Discuss with your principal to reserve a plot of land in the school for a herbal garden & orchard.

With the help of teachers and parents, organise a bake fest, art fest or collect and sell recyclables to raise funds to buy gardening tools, seeds, and tree saplings.

For fertilizing the soil, start a compost heap at school using the guidelines from Module 3.

Hoe the soil and mix in the compost if the soil is naturally infertile. Maintain the compost heap for future use.

Plant the herbs and fruit trees.

Draw up a work schedule for maintenance of the garden on a regular rotational basis.

All waste from the garden (grass cuttings, rotten fruits, etc) can be plied into the compost heap which is then used to fertilize the garden soil, thus completing a cycle.

Compost and harvest from the herbal garden can be sold to nurseries, households and restaurants in the neighbourhood as well as donated to charities.

All proceeds from sales can be plied back into the garden's upkeep or school repairs and upgrades.

