



# Farm to School and Early Childhood Education Program



**April 2021**

The Farm to School and Early Childhood Education Program is committed to providing equitable and just programming, resources, funding, and technical assistance to schools, farmers, and partners in the local food system.

## Webinars and Trainings

### Measuring Impacts and Sharing Results in Garden-Based Education

*April 14, 2021 from 1:00 - 2:15 p.m.*



Since 2016, the School Garden Support Organization (SGSO) Network Leadership Institute participants have been collecting and sharing evaluation methods for their programs, how they assess student outcomes, and their impacts. The 2021 Virtual SGSO Leadership Institute focused on sharing these resources in a more organized manner.

Join SGSO at their upcoming webinar to learn more.

[Register Here](#)

## Virtual Field Trips

### Apple Seeds Teaching Farm

Apple Seeds is a nonprofit organization in Fayetteville, Arkansas whose mission is to inspire healthy living through garden-based education. For the past 17 years, Apple Seeds has facilitated

programming with students across Northwest Arkansas through field trips and cooking classes at their teaching farm and in schools.



Over the past year, Apple Seeds developed virtual resources for students and educators across the state and nation. These resources exist for anyone who wants to enhance their students' health, nutrition, and science knowledge through interactive video field trips that connect students to where food comes from.

- **Plant Science & Our Health:** Science, math, and health standards are addressed throughout a 20-minute video tour of Apple Seeds' grounds and gardens. They discuss how plants grow, how they adapt to their environment, the importance of nutrition, and give a lesson on basic cooking skills.
- **Nutrition Labels & the Food Around Us:** Students will learn to read nutrition labels, the importance of eating a balanced diet, how to make a simple recipe, and be introduced to fractions in a real-world setting. This interactive 15-minute video trip is fun and interactive while addressing math, science, and health standards.

[Access Here](#)

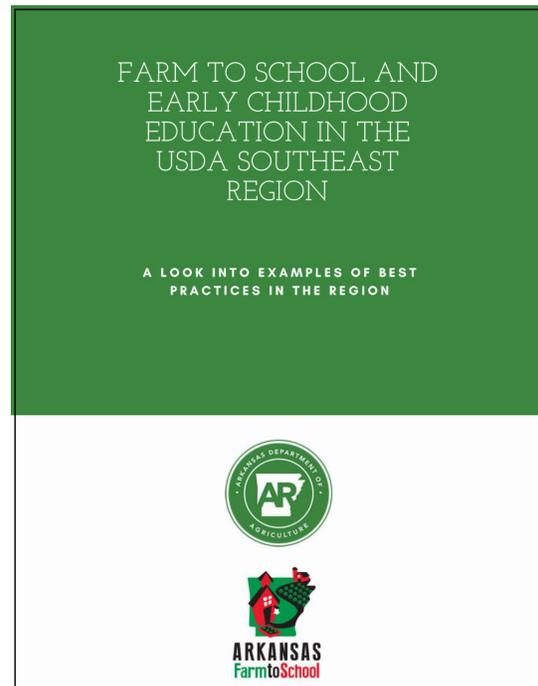
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## Resources

### Farm to School and Early Childhood Education in the USDA Southeast Region

The Farm to School and Early Childhood Education Program is excited to share a new report: Farm to School and Early Childhood Education in the USDA Southeast Region. The report was written after conducting farm to school research and interviewing key players in the southeast United States.

[View Report](#)



### Handouts

Three new resources are available to help school food service programs who want to buy more local food and farmers who want to sell to schools. The resources were created in partnership by the Farm to School and Early Childhood Education Program, University of Arkansas System Division of

## Child Nutrition Flowchart: Buying Local

[View Resource](#)

## Farm Food Safety Checklist - Produce

[View Resource](#)

## Farmer Flowchart: Selling to Schools

[View Resource](#)

## Recordings

The recording from the Farm to School Connection virtual event is available to watch in case you missed it! The event allowed schools and farmers to connect to create more opportunities for local food in schools.

## Farm to School Connection



**Blue & You**  
**FOUNDATION**  
FOR A HEALTHIER ARKANSAS  
An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

## Blue & You Foundation Grant

*Deadline: July 15, 2021*

*Funding: \$5,000+*

Blue & You Foundation's mission is to work together with others to create a state of better health for all Arkansans. They strategically focus grant funding on community-based solutions in the hopes it will nurture community health leadership, foster collaboration and innovation, and leverage financial, human, and community resources to produce measurable, positive impacts. Any program or project that positively affects the health of Arkansans can apply to receive funding. [Apply here.](#)

## Arkansas Grown School Garden of the Year Contest

*Opens: April 19, 2021*

*Deadline: June 6, 2021*

*Funding: \$500 - \$1,000*

The Arkansas Grown School Garden of the Year Contest is sponsored by the Arkansas Department of Agriculture with funding provided by Farm Credit Associations of Arkansas. Applicants may be public or private K-12 schools, early care and education facilities, or alternative learning environments that had a school garden open during the 2020 - 2021 school year, or any schools planning to start a garden in the 2021 - 2022 school year. [Apply here.](#)



[Visit Our Website](#)



**ARKANSAS Farm to School**