

Tips from practice – inspiring learning activities

- To create inspiring learning activities, the **topics and examples** on climate change mitigation measures that can be found in Module 2: Community gardening in a changing climate can be followed.
- If the principle of **learning by doing** is followed, the very act of incorporating these measures into the running of the garden, for example by planning their implementation with the help of community members or by incorporating the suggested practices, can be the biggest driving force for changing attitudes and taking the first active steps of each member. The community garden will thus serve as a **showcase that will** continuously inspire all existing and new members and one-time visitors through its existence.
- **Name the activities clearly** and link the learning/inspiration to natural and familiar activities that participants can imagine in advance e.g.: Neighbourhood picnic (which includes talking about food sources and soil quality); Cooking simply from seasonal produce; Building an insect hotel (biodiversity and insect shelters)
- **Alternate activities according to the level of engagement of participants.** A field trip to the garden (see the example with a talk) or a food tasting using locally grown produce is easy compared to participating in building a new composter or new beds.
- **Distinguish between activities for children and adults.** Children love to be playful, find simplicity, movement, creativity, to create with their hands, to take something concrete home. They keep shorter attention spans and do better with learning by doing than with long theoretical explanations. Adults can handle more challenging theoretical activities, but it is still good to focus on making the knowledge as concrete as possible for use directly in the garden or in their personal lives.
- An ordinary **excursion can be varied** by tasting simple food (lemonade, spread, salad) or edible weeds and flowers, guessing herbs by smell, creating a seed bomb, roasting food over a fire or sitting around a barbecue.

- **Ecogardens.EU** - When looking for inspiration and best practice, you can connect with other community gardens across Europe and ask about their experiences. You can use the Ecogardens.EU Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2177554849063307>)