



## OBJECTIVES

In this activity students will learn about square foot gardening and how to plan for their own square foot garden.

## MATERIALS NEEDED

- Worksheets (attached)

## ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

- What is a square foot garden?
- How do we plan a square foot garden?
- How many plants can we put in my square foot garden?
- What are some plants that do well in a square foot garden?

## LESSON

Garlic is a bulb-forming plant that is easy to grow. Start by planting cloves in early fall, and then harvest the bulbs in late summer. Here are some tips on how to grow 100 garlic bulbs:

- Start with good-quality cloves. Choose cloves that are plump and have no visible mold or bruising.
- Prepare your containers by creating drainage holes on the bottom.
- Add potting soil and soil amendments to containers.
- Plant the cloves in the container in an area that gets full sun.
- Space the cloves about 4 inches apart, and plant them 2-3 inches deep.
- Water the garlic regularly, and fertilize it monthly with a balanced fertilizer. Until soil freezes in winter and then resume when it thaws.
- In spring/summer hardneck garlic varieties will have garlic scapes.
- Make sure to harvest them and try tasting and making recipes.
- When the garlic bulbs are ready to harvest, dig them up carefully with a spade or fork.
- Cure the garlic by hanging it in a well-ventilated area for 2-3 weeks.
- Store the cured garlic in a cool, dark place.

## EXTENSIONS & VARIATIONS

The best way to extend this activity for a classroom project is to divide the class into groups, and have each group grow a different variety of garlic. This will give the students a chance to taste different flavors of garlic, and learn about the different growing habits of each variety.

Another extension activity would be to have the students keep a journal documenting the growth of their garlic plants. This journal could include information such as when the cloves were planted, how often they were watered, and what the final bulbs looked like. At the end of the growing period, have students compare their results and share what they learned about garlic cultivation.

<https://www.ruralsprout.com/grow-garlic-in-pots/>

# SQUARE FOOT GARDEN PLANNING

HANDOUT No. 1



## GARDEN MAP

Draw Your Garden Space

Each Square Equals One Square Foot

Date:

Project Name:

Location:

A large grid of 10 columns and 12 rows of squares. The grid is formed by thin, dotted lines. Each square represents one square foot of garden space.

