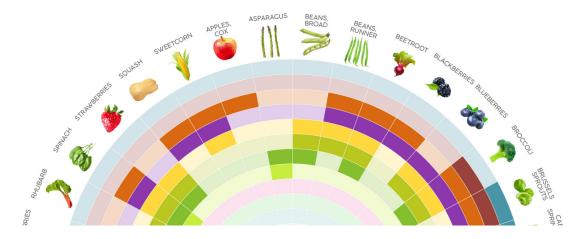
Þingeyjarskoli's June Task - Sustainability



Because of the cold climate in Iceland we don't have many opportunities to grow our own fruits and vegetables outside. Most people who live on the countryside in Iceland plant potatoes and carrots. Our land is rich of "green energy" opportunities where we use the geothermal energy both to heat up our houses and to grow vegetables in greenhouses. No fruits are grown commercially in Iceland, we have to fly most of it in. Fortunately because of our "green energy" we can grow most of our vegetables ourselves. In addition to that a lot of wild berries grow wild in Iceland and most families on the countryside are efficient in picking those and make good use of them.

Our school is on the countryside so in our neighborhood we have a lot of farmers. Some of them sell meat directly from their farms.

Our focus in this month's task will be divided between May and August because summer vacation will start May 29th.

May

- Some of the staff and students will make a small garden where the youngest student will plant potatoes and maybe something else. The staff and students of the kindergarten will water the plants until their summer vacation starts.
- The students from 5.-7 th grade will go with their teachers and visit the greenhouse Hveravellir and get some first hand education on growing vegetables with geothermal energy.

August/september

- The youngest students are going to harvest the potatoes from our garden .
- The older students are going to pick some berries and in cooperation with the staff from the school canteen they make a meal for all students and staff where they use the most local vegetables, berries and meat.

Before we start harvesting we will have a meeting with all the students to explain and talk about why it is important from environmental point to be able to grow and make use of all the food supplies close to us.

Pictures from our trip to the greenhouse Hveravellir



The greenhouse is located ca. 20 kilometers away from our school



Here you can see the geothermal energy. The white and warm steam rises from the earth beneath.



Part of the students walking from one greenhouse to another.



Two students looking at the kale.



The herbs house, here they grow basilica, rosemary, thyme and parsley.



Parsley and basilica plants.



They are famous for their sweet cherry tomatoes.

Two of our students in the cucumber house.





This student is enjoying a fresh cucumber picked directly from the plant.



This student's jacket looked exactly like the red peppers :-)

Pictures of students planting potatoes



Part of the oldest student making the potato garden ready for the planting.



Part of the youngest student after planting the potatoes.