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## WHAT IS GROW RADISH GROW?

Grow Radish Grow is a state-wide effort to get kids across Georgia to get to know radishes by growing and eating them during October Farm to School Month.

### Why Grow Radishes?

- Radishes grow really fast! Most varieties will sprout in just a couple of days, and are ready to harvest and eat in less than a month.
- Because they sprout quickly, radishes are great for simple science experiments, like exploring germination rates and favorable conditions for growing.
- Classic red radishes are fun to harvest because the pop of color coming out of the soil is a surprise!
- Radishes can be eaten raw right in the garden! The only preparation needed is to wash the dirt off.
- Trying spicy radishes is a fun challenge for kids.
- Growing and trying radishes will make students more likely to eat them when they are served as part of a school meal!
- There are many varieties of radishes; some kinds—like “Easter Egg” and “White Icicle”—might surprise you!
- Radishes are the perfect back-to-school plant to grow in Georgia; they need cooler temperatures, so are great to grow once students get settled into their routines in September or October.

### Why School Gardens?

- School gardens are wonderful outdoor classrooms and learning labs. Gardens provide a place for real-life experiments and scientific investigations, for recreating historical activities, for practicing math through tangible problems, and for observing and writing about almost any subject.
- Learning in a garden is experiential. It gives students a chance to apply what they’ve learned in the classroom to actual situations. Learning this way helps concepts stick and requires students to adapt and innovate to real-life challenges.
- Experiences in a garden, combined with nutrition education, are an effective way to change children’s attitudes about eating healthy food.
- Gardens can be any shape and size according to what fits your school. Even growing a few things in pots on a windowsill can be a school garden.
- Students benefit from spending time outside, in a natural environment. Learning outdoors helps students understand the world around them and how people and the environment interact.

# I want Grow Radish Grow at my school! How do I participate?

## 1.) Sign up!

We'll send you resources electronically to help you plan for and implement your Grow Radish Grow activities. Sign up before September 14 and we'll mail you a packet of Cherry Belle Radish seeds and a Georgia Planting and Harvest Calendar for school gardens. (Limit one per school.)

## 2.) Plan your school's Grow Radish Grow activities.

- Form a leadership team of Radish Wranglers to help plan activities.
- Decide what activities you want to do. Do you only want grow radishes? Or grow a whole salad? Grow radishes in different conditions and see which ones grow best? Host a radish taste test? Grow and taste different varieties of radishes? The possibilities are endless!
- Connect with cafeteria staff to see about serving radishes as part of a school meal in conjunction with your school garden activities.
- Set a date and location.

## 3.) Plant radish seeds and watch them grow!

## 4.) Let students harvest and taste their radishes.

## 5.) Tell us about your Grow Radish Grow activities! We'll send out a short survey in early November asking what you did and what the students thought.

