

A photograph showing three people engaged in a community gardening activity. In the foreground, a man in a grey t-shirt and black shorts is using a shovel to dig in the soil. Behind him, a young girl in a white floral dress is also working with a shovel. In the background, a woman in a grey t-shirt and black shorts is using a long-handled tool. They are surrounded by lush green plants and a gravel path. A modern building with a glass facade is visible in the background.

# Engage a Community Through a School Garden – Shenzhen Practice

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Ning Zhang, DreamEcoLand

May 18th, 2023



# The City of Shenzhen

- Southern China, close to Hong Kong
- A City of Development and Innovation
- Population of 17 million
- High population density
- Over 65% new residents within 10 years



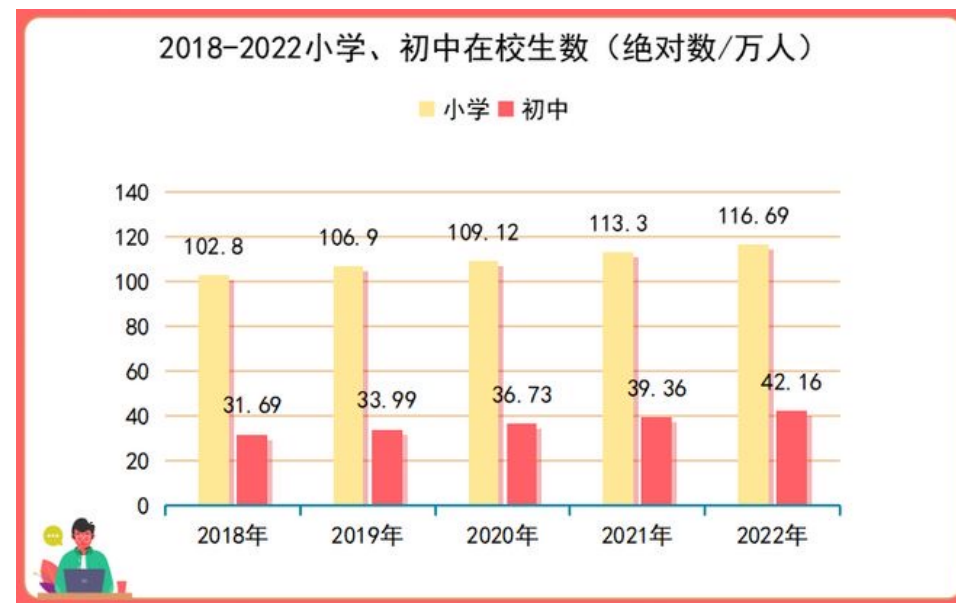
## Community Overview

- Xincheng Community, Longgang County, Longgang District (龙岗区龙岗街道新生社区)
- Population of 53,000, more than 50,000 are new Shenzheners
- Industrial area, soon will be renewed and develop

# Schools in Shenzhen



Lack of quotas in public elementary and middle school in Shenzhen (Data of 2018)

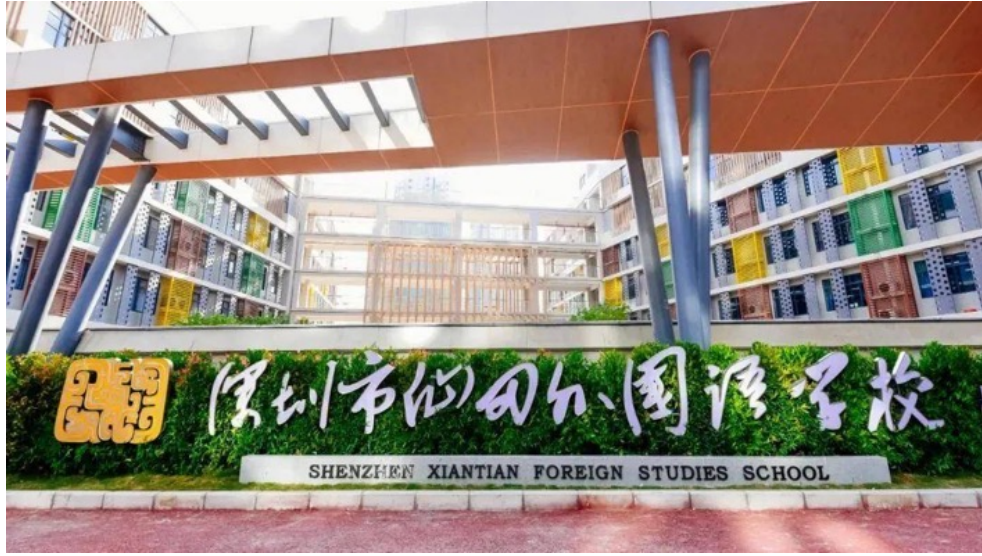


Number of K12 students in Shenzhen keep growing.

- Education is a big issue for young parents in Shenzhen
- Lots of newly built schools
- Nice building, but lack of greening and natural environment



# Shenzhen Xiantian Foreign Studies School



- Newly opened in 2019
- K12 school in Xinsheng Community
- 48 classes in Elementary School, 24 classes in middle school
- Motto: Look up at the stars, put foot down to earth





# Outdoor space that can't be use



## Site Analysis

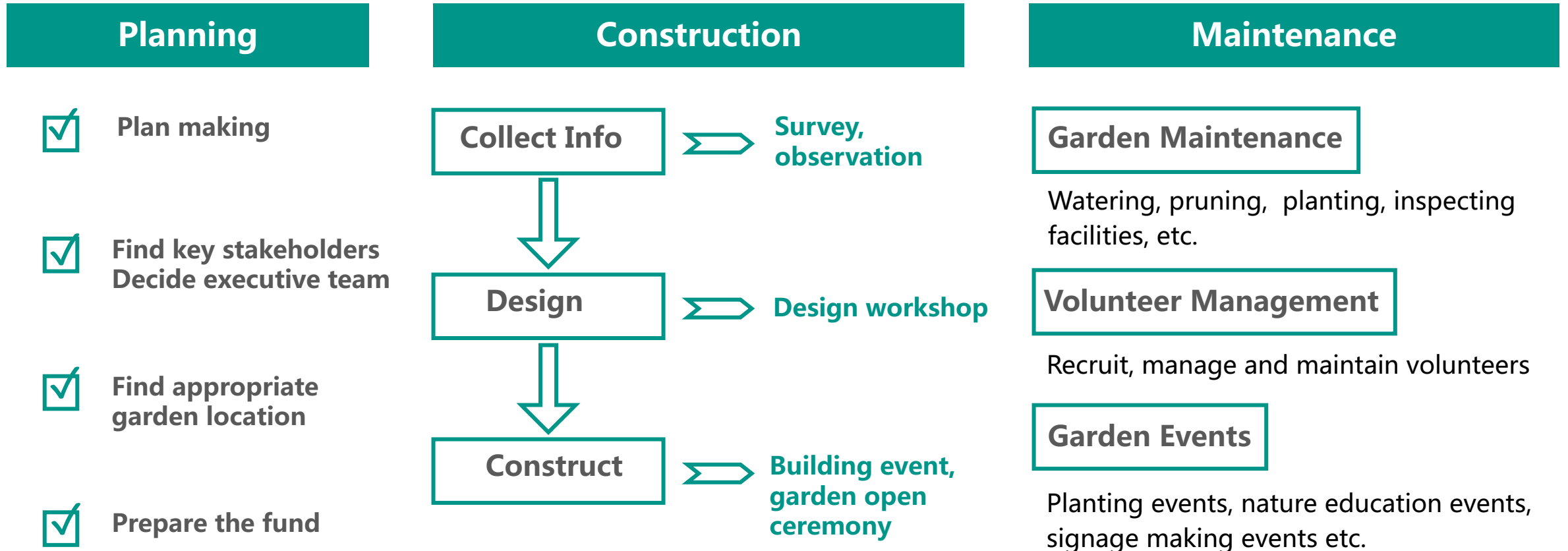
- Area: 520 m<sup>2</sup>
- Open floor
- Surrounded by classrooms
- Fixed flower beds
- Low use



2021.10



# How to build a Co-Building Garden?





# Users opinions matter!

## Students:

“We want to plant our own flowers!”

“I want stairs so I can come up to the garden.”

## Teachers:

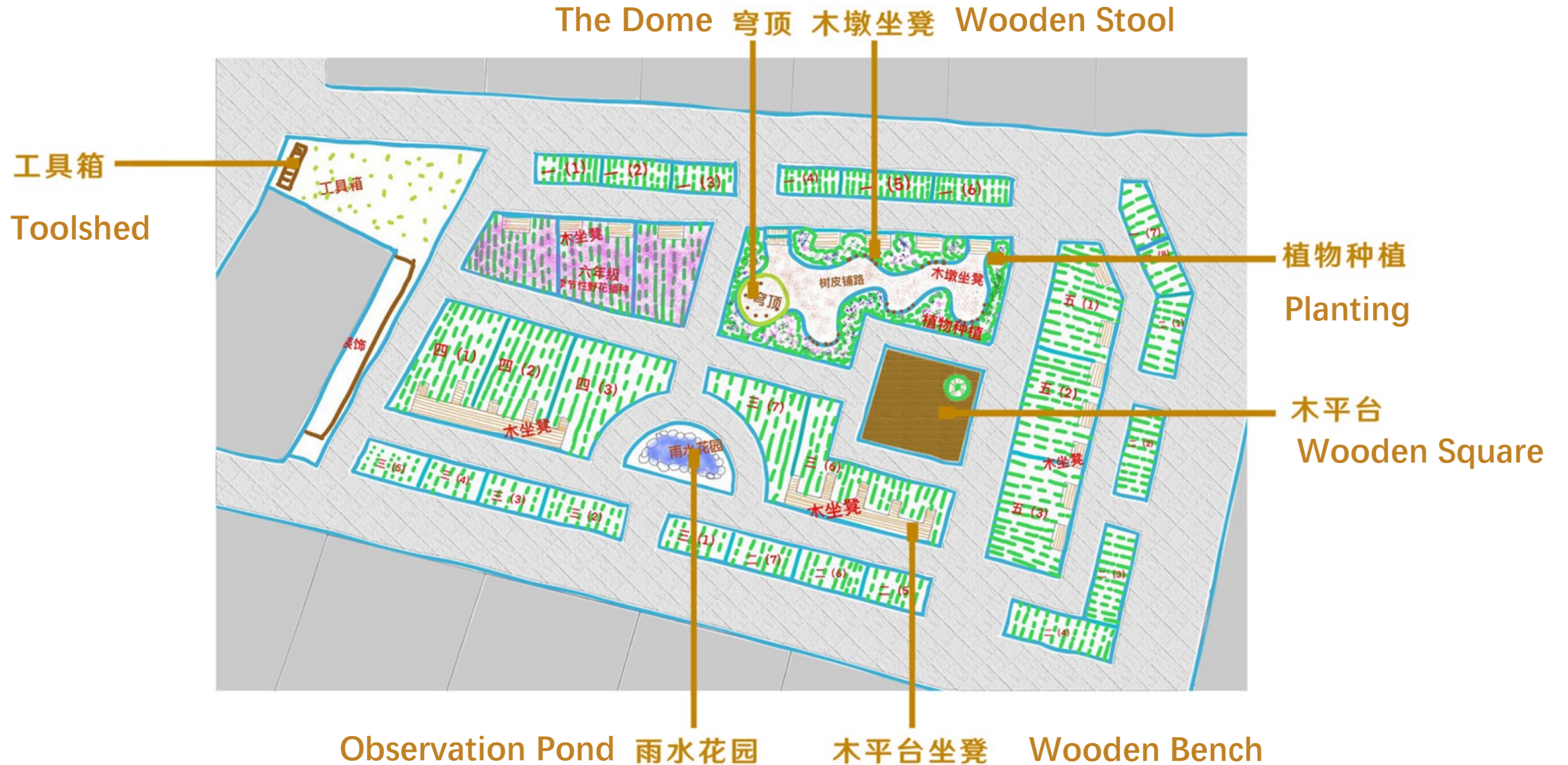
“Vegetables and fruits are better for the course.”



2021.10.25



A both small and big garden!





# Action!

- Recruited almost 100 volunteers, including teachers, students and families
- Finished most of the garden construction



2021.11.5 ALL DAY



# Action!





Finally, we have the garden!



2021.12.31



It's a hot topic on campus!

- The origin of the name Xiantian Banmu (仙田半亩)
- Let's design the logo of our garden!

Everybody has to face bad days in their life.



Try to Remember the Good Things.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR CREATIVITY TO PARTICIPATE IN AND CONTRIBUTE TOGETHER

投稿处：班主任或美术教师  
投稿时间：2021.12.22-2022.1.6

# 仙田半亩LOGO 你来设计!

我们的“花园、果园、乐园”仙外半亩是“梦”发芽的地方更是我们喜爱的场地。诚邀你和家长合作，为仙田半亩设计一个LOGO!

期待您的创意  
一起来参加一起来投稿吧！  
钉钉云课堂有创作秘籍快快去领取！

深圳市仙田外国语学校

一封来自“仙田半亩”的邀请函 >





The garden becomes students' "first farmland" .





The garden becomes an outdoor classroom. Teachers actually use it!

## 活了一百万次的种子： 用劳动点亮儿童生命底色

深圳市龙岗区仙田外国语学校 许彦冰 李静静

## 基于“仙田半亩”的仙外劳动教育规划初探

深圳市龙岗区仙田外国语学校

李晓意 湛安然 章金维

## 仙田外国语学校劳动清单

——“跟着节气去劳动”

**作者简介：**李晓意（1995年5月-）女，汉族，广东深圳人，硕士研究生，小学科学老师，研究方向：小学教育。

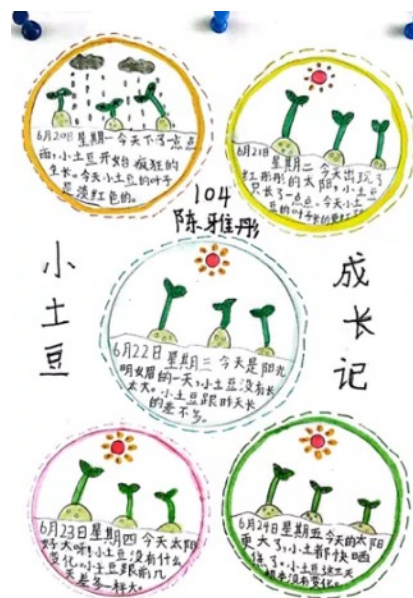
### 浅析新课标背景下小学科学项目化教学模式的可行性

李晓意，湛安然，吴红剑，刘美娟

（深圳市仙田外国语学校，518116）

**摘要：**2022年版义务教育科学课程标准的颁布，使课程结构有所调整，同时简化了课程设计及内容，更注重育人为本，强调在综合及实践式的项目中突出实施与指导。这不仅为课程改革指明了方向，也为后续教师的教育教学提供了政策性意见。而这与近年兴起的，注重在活动中提出及解决问题，以产品为导向的项目式学习（PBL）不谋而合。基于此，我校将相关政策与自身实际情况相结合，提出了独具特色的PBL模式。

**【关键词】** 科学课程标准，项目式学习，问题，活动



日期	星期	天气	土豆的样子	记录
6月20日	星期一	多云 下雨		今天下了一点雨，土豆只有一点点。
6月21日	星期二	多云		今天云很多，土豆的芽也没有长出来。
6月22日	星期三	晴天		今天出太阳了，土豆的芽还是这样，没有长出来，但是已经发芽了。
6月23日	星期四	晴天		今天太阳很大，土豆的芽终于长出了一点，开心，以后继续浇水。
6月24日	星期五	上午多云 下午出太阳		今天，小土豆的芽长了一点点。
6月25日	星期六	晴天		今天土豆的芽没有长，不过也没坏。
6月26日	星期日	晴天		今天土豆芽长了一点点，继续浇水。



(4) 王钰 杨若溪





# The garden becomes a bridge between school and families.

- Families come to help every month.
- Garden is the easiest to recruit parent volunteer. They even have to “fight for it” !



2022.10.16



2023.4.15



The garden becomes a bridge between school and families.

Seeding at home, plant in our garden!





We won a prize!



木平台+雨水花园！龙岗区“仙田半亩”花园获评大奖！

龙小城 美丽龙岗Plus 2022-08-08 21:29

发表于广东





So proud!

“Mom, see! This is my class’ s field. I plant this!”



2023.4.15



# We build a second garden together!

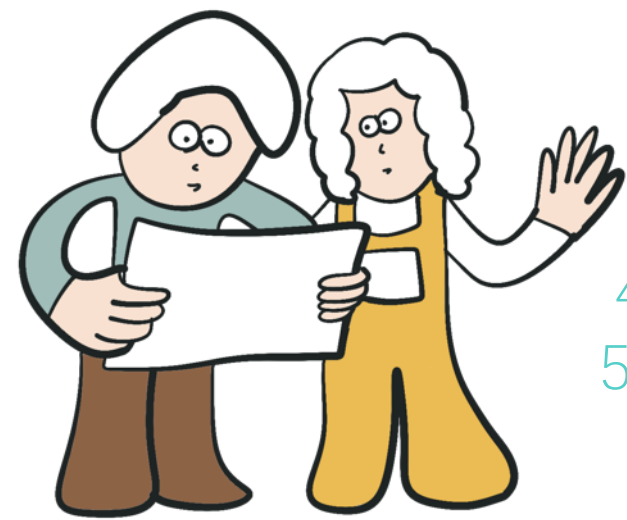
- Xianzong Lvlang(仙踪绿廊), “a linear green garden in Xiantian”
- Biodiversity and climate change themed
- Insect house, rainwater collecting, composting, plant observation
- Cooperated with charitable organization Friends of the Nature







# 3 Years, 45 Gardens in Longgang



- 1 in Park ●
- 4 in Urban Villages ●
- 5 in Survey Agencies ●
- 35 in Schools ●

- Public Library
- Urban Village
- Shopping Mall
- Park
- Special School
- Early University
- Nursing Home



# List of Participating Schools



## Elementary Schools

龙岗实验学校小学部  
花城小学  
平湖第二实验学校

石芽岭学校  
仙田外国语学校  
东兴外国语学校  
龙城小学  
龙岗实验小学  
甘李学校

同乐主力学校  
道远学校  
贤义外国语学校  
华南师范大学附属  
平湖学校

13 Gardens



## Kindergartens

龙岗街道中心幼儿园  
御景中央幼儿园  
紫园幼儿园  
可园幼儿园  
八仙岭幼儿园  
荷坳幼儿园  
嘉悦山幼儿园  
嶂背第一幼儿园  
阳光天健城幼儿园  
坂田荣汇幼儿园  
坂田街道中心幼儿园

11 Gardens



## Middle Schools

实验中学  
龙岭初中  
龙岗中学

3 Gardens



## Universities

深圳技师学院  
深圳信息职业技术学院  
香港中文大学深圳校区

3 Gardens



# Different methods to work with young people at different ages



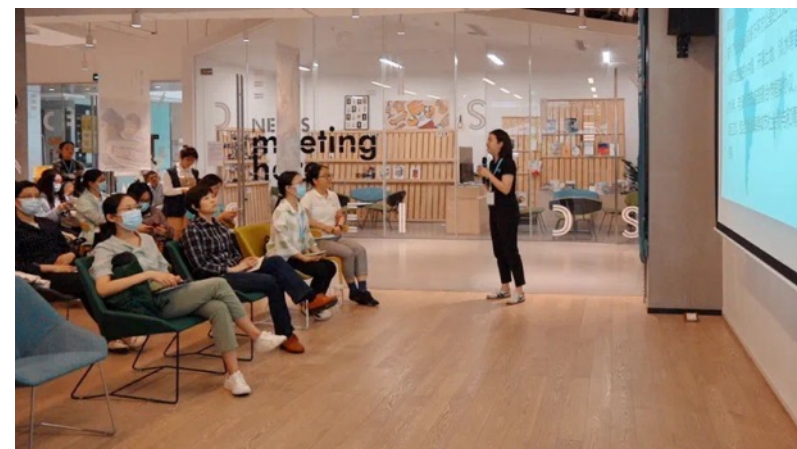


# Our practices in learnscape





# Shenzhen School Garden Forum





# Longgang Co-Building Garden Celebration and Gathering



2023.3.5



# Schools as a community centers, gardens gather families to connection

- As a city full of new residents, we need different strategy to build up our community;
- Education is high priority in most families, especially in Shenzhen;
- Many parents are willing to support their kids and schools in various way;
- School gardens has shown to be an effective way for young parents to participate in public affairs.



How a child grow up





# School gardens as students' practice in civic engagement

- With heavy workload, students have rare opportunity to participate in local public issues;
- School gardens give them a chance to redesign part of their campus, bringing them a new perspective - we are capable of (and encouraged to) making the campus a better place!
- Ongoing watering and planting teach them responsibilities.





# Education through Actions



Tbilisi Declaration, 1977

- Environmental Education is NOT only about learning, but more about action;
- Practice and action matters;
- Garden is too big? Try something small and easy!
- If it' s a public issue in your community, better! Try to solve it!



# Echo the strongest need in your community by Environmental Education

大家一起为花园出份里哦!



范彩丹  
副校长





# New Age, New Community Form



- The internet and mobile shorten physical distance (but haven't destroy).
- People with similar minds can connect easier than before.
- But only people in close neighborhood can share off-line social life, especially for parents and kids.
- Our experience: a group living within 10km (20min drive) is easier to maintain bi-weekly or monthly gathering.





Ning Zhang

## Education Background

Environmental Science  
@Qingdao, China

Environmental Engineering  
@Guangzhou, China

Public Affairs  
@Indiana, US

## Professional Experience



2014-2015 @New York City  
Parks and Recreation Department



2015-2018 @Ginkgo Foundation, Beijing



2018-2022 @Shenzhen Green Foundation



2022-now @DreamEcoLand



## DreamEcoLand



- A professional but non-traditional **landscape team** based in Longgang, Shenzhen
- Expertise: **Eco Landscape Design, Learnscape, Natural Playground, Participatory Design**
- Work with governments, educational institutes and charitable organization



Gardens



Gardens



Natural Trails



Thank you for watching!



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