












Urban Agriculture Scavenger Hunt

Soil in urban areas is a valuable resource, especially with the world's ever-growing population. Urban agriculture allows for the development of a variety of environmental, economic, and social benefits to the surrounding communities.



What benefits of urban agriculture can you think of?

Urban areas have unique challenges with agriculture, including limited resources and pollution. Innovative urban agriculture practices help to overcome these challenges. Common practices include:¹

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|  Meditation gardens |  Outdoor classrooms |  Victory gardens |
|  Rooftop gardens |  Vertical gardens |  Green space, open space |
|  Rain gardens |  Desert gardens |  Medicine circles |
|  Butterfly gardens |  Kitchen gardens |  Labyrinths (mazes) |



Which of these urban agricultural practices are you familiar with? Circle their names on the list. Choose two practices you aren't as familiar with and look them up. Describe these two practices with words and/or pictures.

¹ Kejela, K. (2022, October 12) *Advancing Food Systems: Managing Urban Soils Ecosystems in the Transformation of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production* [Slides]. USDA/NRCS.
<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/sites/default/files/2022-10/Advancing%20Food%20Systems%20and%20Urban%20Soils%20with%20Dr%20Kejela.pdf>



With an adult, take a walk around your community and see how many of the urban agriculture practices you can find. Take notes and draw pictures of what you see.



Which of the practices would you want to add to your community? Where would you put it, and why? Explain your design using words and pictures.

NGSS connections

DCI: Earth's Systems, Earth and Human Activity

SEP: Engaging in Argument from Evidence

CCC: Structure and Function

SDG connections

2: Zero Hunger

10: Reduced Inequalities

11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA NRCS) • www.soils.usda.gov

The USDA NRCS delivers science-based soil information to help farmers, ranchers, foresters, and other land managers effectively manage, conserve, and appraise their most valuable investment — the soil.

Credit: Pencil icons: The Noun Project