



Believe in tomorrow.  
Educate | Plant | Cultivate

Our mission is to inspire children to learn about and value the natural world through garden-based education.

Our Program strives to grow:

- Environmental champions
- Inquisitive learners
- Healthy eaters



## WHAT WE DO

We provide engaging and hands on Transitional Kindergarten through Middle School outdoor lessons that build concepts from one year to the next. Our lessons align with California Next Generation Science and Common Core Standards in Math, Social Studies, Language Arts and Nutrition.

Our Edible and native habitat gardens on each school campus provide beautiful and stimulating learning environments and are the venues for our lessons on topics ranging from plant life cycles, natural phenomenon like photosynthesis and decomposition, history, ecology, the scientific method, ethnobotany, nutrition and healthy eating. We provide the basis of environmental literacy to the students we teach.

## WHO WE SERVE

Living Classroom is currently providing garden- and nature-based instruction in Mountain View, Palo Alto, Campbell, San Jose, and Los Altos. We are dedicated to growing our program to reach more schools across the South Bay and Mid-Peninsula.

## OUR SUPPORT

Living Classroom has a community of volunteer docents and parents who support our lessons provided by experienced outdoor instructors. We engage local businesses and service organizations to help build our beautiful gardens. Generous foundation and individual donors, partnered with school districts and individual schools, enable us to reach thousands of students annually.

Since our founding in 2008:

**35**  
SCHOOLS  
SERVED

**60,000**  
STUDENTS  
SERVED

**35**  
EDIBLE  
GARDENS

**30**  
NATIVE  
HABITAT  
GARDENS

Living Classroom was founded by Vicki Moore in the Los Altos School District in 2008. The program was absorbed by the district, and in 2013 Living Classroom became a 501c3 nonprofit and began programming in the Mountain View Whisman School District. Additionally, we have operated Living Classroom Programming in Los Altos, Campbell, Palo Alto and San Jose, and are seeking to expand to other districts in Santa Clara and southern San Mateo County.

## Social and Emotional Learning

School garden-based Instruction improves social and emotional skills of empathy, communication and teamwork, enhanced relationships with peers, and improved overall well-being. Psychological benefits include positive mental health, sense of purpose and belonging, higher life satisfaction, and the ability to manage stress and life challenges. Academic research on this topic can be found here:



"The name 'Living Classroom' says it all! Students were very engaged during the lesson as most of it was hands-on experience. They had many opportunities to explore their surroundings and observe phenomena that otherwise they would have missed. The lessons have definitely planted the curiosity seed in my students."

-First Grade Teacher

"I LIKE THIS PROGRAM BECAUSE A KID CAN GO OUTSIDE AND GET DIRTY. MOST OF ALL, A KID CAN DO THE REAL STUFF. THIS IS MUCH MORE ACTIVE THAN PUTTING YOUR FACE IN A BOOK."

-SECOND GRADE STUDENT