



# September

## Hands-on – the inclusive garden

*Inclusive garden – St Thomas's SNS, Jobstown, Tallaght*



### What is it?

What is it? A garden which grows plants from the continents of origin of children in the school. Some plants from Asia for example represent all the Asian countries .

### Background information

'Profile 6 Migration and Diversity' in the 2011 Census states that people from 187 different nationalities work in

Ireland. It also states:

- ✦ The number of non-Irish nationals has increased by 124,624 persons or by 29.7% since 2006. Their number stood at 544,357 in 2011. In 2002 they represented 5.8% of the population; in 2011 this figure increased to 12%.
- ✦ The highest number of non-nationals according to continent are as follows: Europe-Poland 122,585

Asia-India 16,986

Africa-Nigeria 17,642

South America-Brazil 8,704

North America-U.S. 11,015

Oceania-Australia 2,849

### Why have an inclusive garden in the school?

- 1 Most schools have a proportion of non-national children.
- 2 This garden will make these
- 3 They will see a parallel between the world of plants and that of people viz. there are no boundaries to settlement and establishment.
- 4 It could trigger a study of a plant's country of origin.
- 5 It will enable all children to appreciate the diversity of plant-life on the planet.

### Did you know?

The highest number of European non-nationals come from Poland; the lowest number come from Luxembourg.

### North America

LATIN NAME	Aster novibelgii	Heuchera sanguinea	Eschscholzia californica
COMMON NAME	Michaelmas Daisy	Coral Flower	Californian Poppy
TYPE	P	P	HA
CONTAINER?	Yes	Yes	Yes
HARDINESS	Hardy	Hardy	Hardy
FLOWERING	Sept-Oct	June-Sept	June-Sept
ORIGIN	Canada to Georgia	Mexico, Arizona	California
NOTES	Cut down after flowers fade.	Remove stems after flowering.	Sow seeds in September. Poor soil.

### South America

LATIN NAME	Fuchsia/ 'Tom Thumb'	Zephyranthes candida	Tropaeolum Majus
COMMON NAME	Fuchsia	Storm Lily	Nasturtium
TYPE	Sh	B	HHA
CONTAINER?	Yes	Yes	Yes
HARDINESS	Hardy	Hardy	Not hardy
FLOWERING	Sept-Oct	Sept-Oct	Aug-Sept
ORIGIN	South and Central Uruguay	Argentina	Chile to Mexico
NOTES	Cut back in March to 2,5cm.	Poor soil.	

### Europe

LATIN NAME	Cyclamen purpurascens	Alyssum saxatile	Festuca glauca
COMMON NAME	Cyclamen	Golden Dust	Blue Fescue
TYPE	B	P	P
CONTAINER?	Yes	Yes	Yes
HARDINESS	Hardy	Hardy	Hardy
FLOWERING	July-Sept	April-June	June-July
ORIGIN	Hungary to Southern Italy	East Europe	Europe
NOTES	Soil must be rich in organic matter.	Trim back after flowering.	

## Suitable representative plants from the different continents

### Africa

LATIN NAME	Pelargonium	Osteospermum	Impatiens walleriana
COMMON NAME	Geranium	African or Cape Daisy	Busy-lizzie
TYPE	P	P	HHA
CONTAINER?	Yes	Yes	Yes
HARDINESS	Not hardy	Not hardy	Not hardy
FLOWERING	June-Sept	May-Sept	April-Oct
ORIGIN	South Africa, Namibia	South Africa	East Africa
NOTES	Don't overwater. Bring inside in winter. Cut stems in half.	Renew each year from cuttings.	Bring indoors in winter.

## Resources

Websites mentioned plus:

- ✎ [www.tes.co.uk/ks2-citizenship-primary-teaching-resources/](http://www.tes.co.uk/ks2-citizenship-primary-teaching-resources/) – Lesson ideas on diversity
- ✎ [www.gould.org.au](http://www.gould.org.au) – Multicultural food gardens
- ✎ [www.cjee.lakeheadu.ca](http://www.cjee.lakeheadu.ca) – Paper on multicultural gardening
- ✎ [www.cso.ie](http://www.cso.ie) – 2011 census
- ✎ [www.theflowerexpert.com/content/aboutflowers/national-flowers](http://www.theflowerexpert.com/content/aboutflowers/national-flowers) – National flowers
- ✎ *People, Plants & Places* by Julian Agyeman (Southgate) 1995

## Literacy/Litearthacht

**Perennial/Ilbhliantóg:** Plant with a non-woody stem that usually dies down in winter and grows again in the following years. Planda le gas neamhadhmadach a théann i léig de ghnáth sa gheimhreadh agus a fhásann arís sna blianta dar gcionn.

**Annual/Bliantóg:** Plant that fulfils its whole life-cycle in a single year. Planda a chomhlíonann a shaolré ar fad in aon bhliain amháin.

**Hardy plant/Planda Crua:** Plant that survives the winter in Ireland. Planda a thagann tríd an ngeimhreadh in Éirinn.

**Bulb/Bleib:** Rounded food-storage organ such as an onion which contains food for the plant's new shoots. Orgán cuar a stóráilann bia cosúil le hoinniún ina bhfuil bia do na buinneoga/meatháin/péacáin nua.

*Buíochas do Marie Whelton (MIE) don aistriúchán.*



## Containers

All these plants can be grown in containers. Obtain recycled washing-machine and tumble-dryer drums from the Clondalkin Community Recycling Initiative. See [www.ccri.ie](http://www.ccri.ie)

## Planting up the containers

- 1 Put small stones in the bottom for drainage. Fill to three-quarters full with loam-based compost such as *John Innes No. 3 for Shrubs*. Use peat-free compost or peat-free compost and soil for the rest. Place the plant's container in the compost to determine space.
- 2 Ensure the root-ball is moist by inserting it in a bucket of water for a few minutes. Loosen the roots and place it in the container. Add compost gradually, firming it down as the root-ball is covered.
- 3 Push slow-release fertilizer pellets into the compost. Do not let it dry out.



## Possible layout

- 1 Arrange the containers in a circle to represent the earth. Beside the container(s) representing the particular continent place a sign with a list of all the countries represented by children from there in the school. Stick the country flags beside the countries' names.
- 2 Label plants grown in the ground around the school with their country of origin. Some suitable ones: *Choisya ternata* (Mexico); *Penstemon* spp (Central and North America); *Phlox drumondii* (North America); *Acer palmatum* (Japan), *Nepeta neriosa* (Kashmir); *Buddleia davidii* (China); *Sedum spectabile* (China and Korea); *Mahonia japonica* (Japan); *Cotoneaster horizontalis* (China); *Verbena bonariensis* (South America); *Buddleia globosa* (Chile and Argentina); *Crocsmia 'Severn Sunrise'* (South Africa); *Philadelphus coronarius* (Italy).

## Oceania

LATIN NAME	<i>Hebe x franciscana/ 'Blue Gem'</i>	<i>Senecio laxifolius</i>	<i>Xerochrysum bracteatum</i>
COMMON NAME	<i>Veronica</i>	<i>Daisy Bush</i>	<i>Straw Flower</i>
TYPE	SH	SH	HA
CONTAINER?	Yes	Yes	Yes
HARDINESS	Hardy	Hardy	Hardy
FLOWERING	June-Oct	June-July	July-Sept
ORIGIN	New Zealand	New Zealand	Australia
NOTES	Trim after flowering.	Remove dead shoots in spring.	Sow seeds in spring.

## Asia

LATIN NAME	<i>Bergenia cordifolia</i>	<i>Hydrangea macrophylla</i>	<i>Hosta plantaginea</i>
COMMON NAME	<i>Elephant's Ears</i>	<i>Hydrangea</i>	<i>Plantain Lily</i>
TYPE	P	SH	P
CONTAINER?	Yes	Yes	Yes
HARDINESS	Hardy	Hardy	Hardy
FLOWERING	March-April	July-Sept	Aug-Sept
ORIGIN	Siberia	China, Japan	Japan, China
NOTES	Remove stems after flowering.	Plenty of organic matter. Mulch in April.	Dead-head faded blooms.

## Key

HA = hardy annual; SH = shrub;  
 P = perennial; HHA = half hardy annual  
 B = bulb;



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The first Irish School Gardening Conference will be held in MIE on 5 October. See [www.schoolearthed.ie](http://www.schoolearthed.ie) for application form and details.