

School Gardens
Spans the Meal Tray
Student Achievement
Hands-on Learning

Partnerships

What is Farm to School?

Local Food
Taste Testing
Engaging Students

Enriching Connections
Supporting Local Farmers & Ranchers
Farm Field Trips

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What is farm to school?

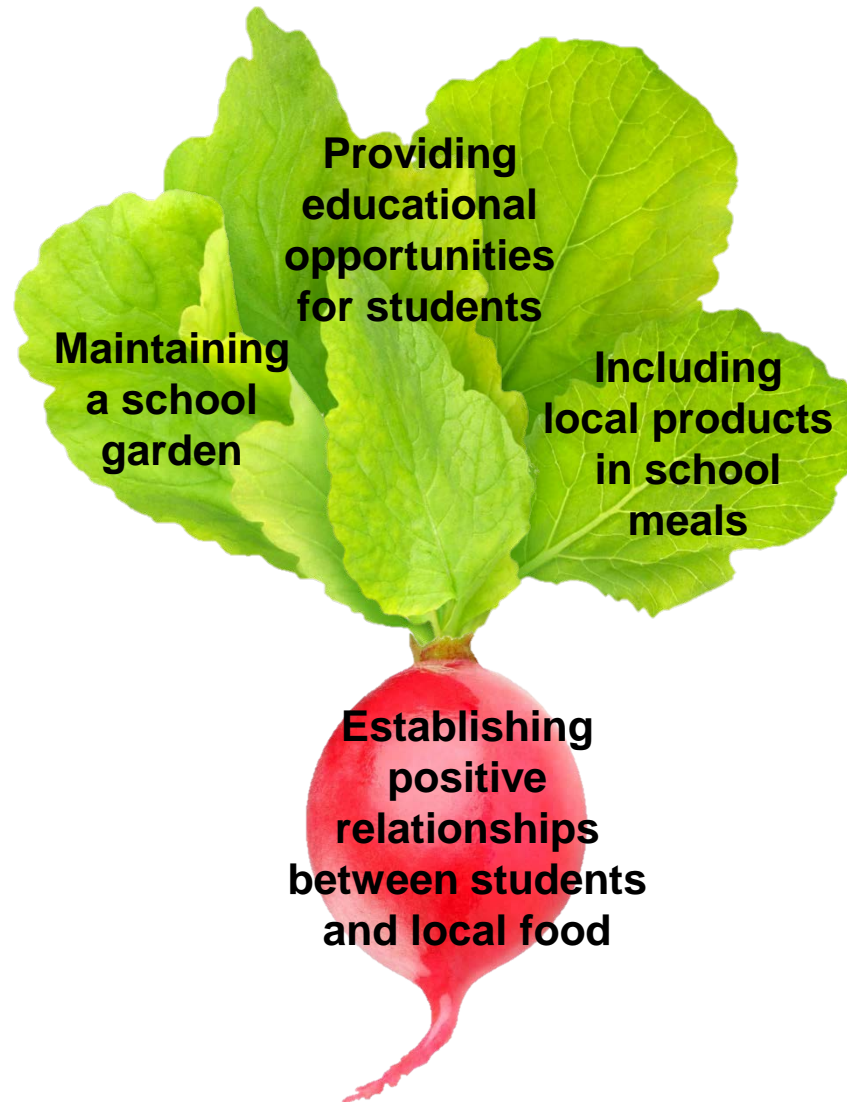
What is considered local?

How can schools purchase local ingredients?

What school meal items can be sourced locally?

What resources are available?

What is Farm to School?



Examples of Activities



Farmer Visit
Smithville ISD



Classroom Lesson



Garden-based Learning
Harts Bluff ISD



Field Trip to Farm or
Farmers Market



Food Demonstration



Taste Test
Smithville ISD

What is Considered Local?

What does **local food** mean?

Food that is grown or raised, and harvested...

- A. Within the same county as my school
- B. Within 100 miles of my school
- C. Within Texas
- D. All of the above



Defining Local



Who defines local?

What is the goal?

- Incorporating as many local products as possible
- Build personal relationships with local farmers and ranchers
- Include educational opportunities for students



- Within a city or county
- Within a radius
- Within a state
- Within a region

Definition may change depending on:

- Season
- Product
- Special events



How Can Schools Purchase Local?



Farmers and ranchers

Cooperative groups of farmers and ranchers

Food service management companies

Distributors

School gardens



Incorporating into Existing School Program Participation

Department of Defense Fresh Fruit and Vegetable
Program

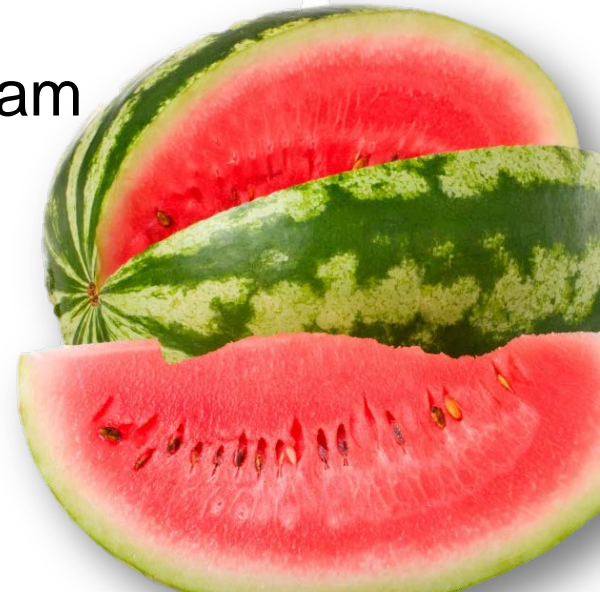
(DoD Fresh)

Department of Defense Farm to School Program

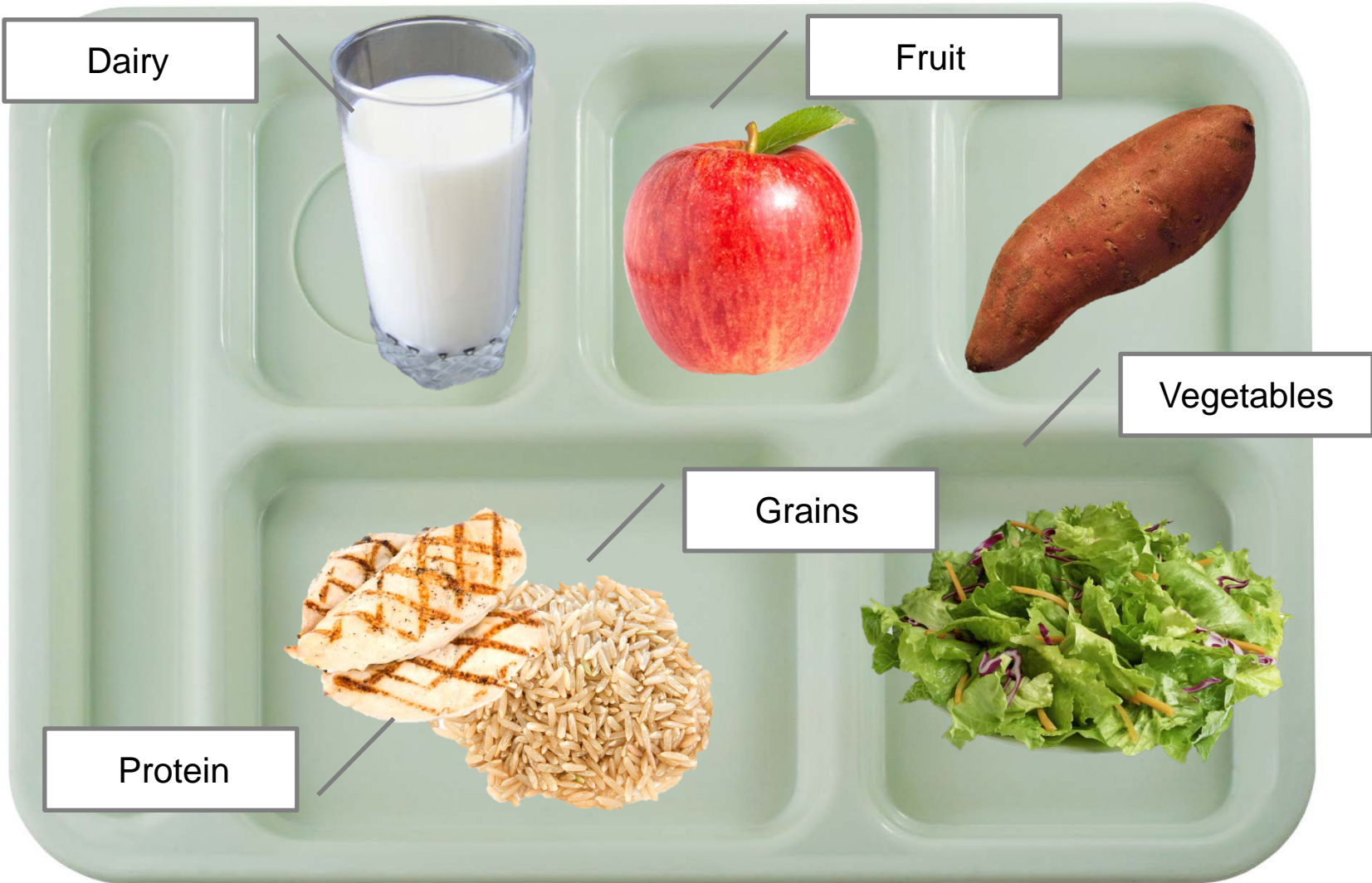
(DoD Farm to School)

Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program

(FFVP)



What Ingredients can be Local?








Evolution of a Local Menu

Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.
Porcupine Sliders	Honey-Lemon Chicken Harvest Delight	Sliced BBQ Beef	Chicken Penne	Crispy Tacos
Whole Grain Mini Roll	Whole Grain Biscuit	Whole Grain Bun	Whole Grain Breadstick	Mexicali Corn
Scalloped Potatoes	Mixed Greens Salad w/ choice of Dressing	BBQ Sauce	Romaine Lettuce Salad w/ choice of Dressing	Marinated Black Bean Salad
Green Beans	Apple Slices	Creamy Coleslaw	Raw Veggies Dippers	Watermelon Cubes
Veggie Sticks w/ Ranch Dressing	Milk	Baked Beans	Fresh Cantaloupe Cubes	Milk
Fresh Grapes		Berry Medley	Milk	
Milk		Milk		












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Impact of Local Food Purchases



If **5¢** was spent on local food
for each of the 864,544,110 breakfasts and lunches*
served during the 2013-2014 school year

\$43,227,205

of school food dollars would go to **local** farmers and
ranchers, bolstering our **local economy**.

** Based on reimbursable meals claimed during school year 2013-2014*

What Resources are Available?



TDA Statewide Farm to School Initiative

www.SquareMeals.org/FarmtoSchool

USDA Farm to School Program

www.fns.usda.gov/farmtoschool

National Farm to School Network

www.farmtoschool.org



Local Resources



ESC Office

Local non-profit organizations

Producer associations

Farmers markets

Cooperative Extension



What do Others Say?

Healthy Habits take Root —
Getting Started with Farm to School
a video from USDA





Ready to Dig In?



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