



October 25, 2017

6th, 7th, & 8th Grade Ecology Elective

Activities This Week



Mulching two of our butterfly gardens.



Transplanting seedlings to get them ready to be sold at our Health Fair.



Pulling weeds in the courtyard.

Did You Know?

A weed is a plant considered undesirable in a particular situation. It is a plant in the "wrong place." Weeds are best controlled with mulch, not chemicals.

Lesson of the Week



Why do we mulch our gardens?

Mulch is any material that is spread or laid over the surface of the soil, as a covering. It is used to:

- ◆ retain moisture in the soil;
- ◆ suppress weeds;
- ◆ keep the soil cool, and;
- ◆ makes the garden bed attractive.

Organic mulches also help improve the soil's fertility as they decompose.

Get Local Recipe: Roasted Butternut Squash With Garlic Parmesan



Ingredients:

- ◆ 1 lb. butternut squash, peeled and cut into small chunks
- ◆ 3 cloves garlic, minced
- ◆ 1/2 stick butter (4 T), melted
- ◆ Pinch of salt
- ◆ 3 dashes black pepper
- ◆ 1 to 2 t parsley leaves, finely chopped
- ◆ 1/3 C grated parmesan cheese

Steps:

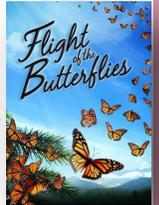
1. Preheat oven to 400F.
2. Peel the butternut squash and use a spoon to scrape the pulps and seeds. Cut into cubes and small chunks.
3. In a salad bowl, toss the butternut squash cubes with the garlic, melted butter, salt, pepper, and parsley leaves.
4. Transfer the butternut squash on a baking sheet. Spread out in an even and single layer (no overlap), and roast for about 40 minutes or until the surface becomes light brown and the flesh is tender and soft.
5. Turn off the heat, remove from oven and sprinkle the Parmesan cheese on top of the squash.
6. Put it back into the oven for 5 minutes until the cheese is melted. Serve immediately.

Garden Elective Media of the Week

Flight of the Butterflies

Netflix or Amazon

This visually stunning documentary follows the yearlong migration of the monarch butterfly from the volcanic forests of Mexico all the way to Canada.



Get Excited!!

ACS has become a great home to caterpillars, chrysalises, and butterflies.

