#### Growing a Great Garden Maintenance

# Weekends and vacation for your garden

One of the trickiest obstacles in your classroom garden is managing holidays! But, don't despair! A Little Green Thumbs garden is designed to let you leave your garden over weekends and week-long school breaks. Try these simple tips to make sure your classroom garden stays healthy.

#### 1. Fill your water reservoirs.

The simplest tip: remember to fill your water reservoirs below your growing boxes right before you leave for vacation!

### 2. Transplant seedlings into larger containers.

Planting seedlings will help prevent them from drying out. Remember to water them well once you plant them in the larger containers.

### 3. Place damp newspapers over the top of soil.

Place a few layers of damp newspaper on soil as mulch, to prevent evaporation.

#### 4. Trim foliage of mature plants the day before leaving.

Trim foliage of mature plants the day before leaving so they will require less water during your absence.



### 5. Build a mini greenhouse over your potted plants.

Cover your smaller pots with a transparent plastic bag, lifted with bamboo poles. Poke a couple holes in the bag for oxygen.

## 6. Use sticky traps to check for pests the week before.

Place a few sticky traps in the garden & monitor for a few days to ensure there are no signs of pests. If you do see pests, begin treating with our soap spray recipe (link to on resource pace). Remove affected leaves, and if needed, remove the entire plant in case of serious infestation.

#### 7. Check your timer.

Double check that you timer is set for 8-12 hours of light each day.

#### 8. Last, but not least – ensure your worms have been well fed before you go, and check your bin moisture level.

If it is too dry, add some water. If it is too wet, add some extra newspaper bedding.

