

6 BIG IMPACTS OF EDIBLE EDUCATION



DURING THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR, EDIBLE SCHOOLYARD NYC

reached nearly **4,000 students** and taught **2,145 classes** across **23 schools**. We also **trained over 580 educators** to incorporate edible education into their own classrooms.

Surveys of students, parents and other caregivers*, and educators **demonstrate the impact** of our programming at our Core Schools, where ESYNYC educators are in residence, and **students participate in gardening and cooking classes as part of their school day**. Core Schools serve as demonstration sites where we explore, adapt, and share our program model with other educators.

*96% of survey respondents identified as parents, and are reported as such in this report.

1 ESYNYC supports students in healthy eating, and helps them learn to like new fruits and vegetables.

Most parents and other caregivers strongly agreed or agreed that because of ESYNYC classes, their child was more interested in:

- Eating healthy (91%)
- Eating fruits (88%)
- Eating vegetables (87%)

2 ESYNYC fosters social and emotional learning by allowing students to work together, take risks, and try new things.

Students said that during ESYNYC classes, they always, often, or sometimes:

- Work together with their classmates (96%)
- Try new things (95%)
- Do something brave (84%)

*"I think that [the] garden is important because it encourages mindfulness and also teaches children patience."
- ESYNYC partner school staff*

Partner school staff strongly agreed or agreed that Edible Schoolyard NYC:

- contributed to students' emotional well-being (99%)
- helped students develop cooperation skills (99%)
- helped students become more confident overall (97%)

3 ESYNYC promotes academic growth by helping students understand academic concepts.

89% of partner school staff said that ESYNYC cooking and gardening classes **help their students understand at least one academic topic**.

*"The garden...has helped English language learners to develop academic and social language."
- ESYNYC partner school staff*





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ESYNYC nurtures students' sense of environmental stewardship, helping them understand where food comes from and their capacity to advocate for the earth.

Students report* that working in the school garden helps them to:

- Feel like they are doing something good for the environment (91%)
- Understand where food comes from (90%)
- Feel connected to nature (88%)

**Reflects students who selected "a little", "some", or "very much".*

Most partner school staff strongly agreed or agreed that ESYNYC increased students':

- Sense of stewardship toward the earth (94%)
- Understanding of their capacity to advocate for the environment (93%)



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ESYNYC facilitates understanding of diverse cultures, allowing students to learn about different cultures and celebrate their own.

Most partner school staff strongly agreed or agreed that in ESYNYC classes:

- Students learned about different cultures (98%)
- Students' own cultures were reflected (97%)

*"The [ESYNYC] teachers also **handpick recipes** that are geared towards many of the cultures at our school. **Students are excited** and feel a sense of pride when they are able to **showcase food from their own culture.**"*

- ESYNYC partner school staff

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ESYNYC strengthens school engagement by helping students feel more positively about school and creating opportunities for parents to connect to the school.

99% of partner school staff and **95%** of parents and other caregivers strongly agreed or agreed that ESYNYC helps create a sense of community at their school.

*"I think **every school** should have cooking and gardening classes."*

- Parent

*"Edible Schoolyard is **the MOST important** component of our school"*

- ESYNYC partner school staff

Partner school staff strongly agreed or agreed that ESYNYC:

- Helps their students feel more positively towards school (94%)
- Helps connect parents to the school (83%)

*"ESY[NYC] **motivates** students to come to school."*

- ESYNYC partner school staff

EDIBLE SCHOOLYARD NYC IS BUILDING SPACE FOR STUDENTS TO FLOURISH.

Learn more about how we're making edible education accessible to all students through our Core Schools, Mobile Education, Seed-to-Table Fellowship, Professional Development, Technical Assistance services, and advocacy on our website: edibleschoolyardnyc.org