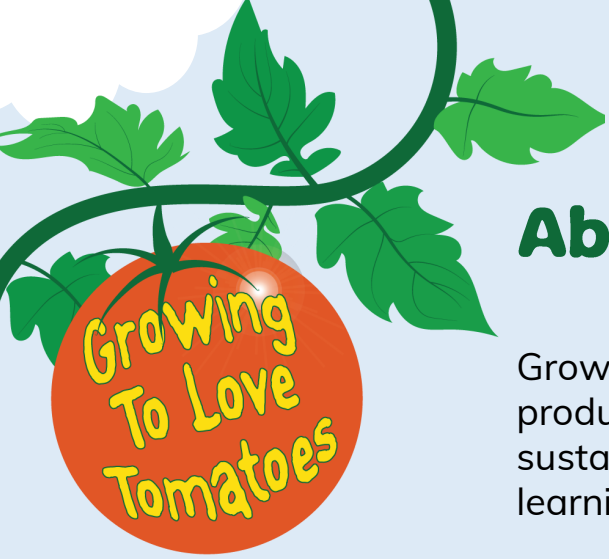




Growing  
To Love  
Tomatoes

2025 Report  
**VEGPOWER**



## About Growing to Love

Growing vegetables encourages children to try the food they produce, fosters understanding of the food chain and sustainability, and encourages hands-on curriculum-based learning.

Growing to Love, a project for primary and special schools developed by behavioural scientists, teachers, and botanists, and featuring Shaun the Sheep, shows children the joy of growing and tasting their own produce.

In 2025 30,000 children in 478 primary & special schools took part growing their own tomatoes

[Click for more info](#)

**Vazera**  
Growing Together

**AARDMAN**





## Resources

We provide busy teachers with complete, ready-to-use growing kits, delivered in one box, ensuring a fun and effective tomato-growing program. Kits include seeds, compost, feed, and everything needed for a successful classroom experience.

Growing resources are supported by teaching resources including lesson plans, activity sheets, grow charts, craft projects and fun instructional videos featuring Sam Nixon (Crackerjack, Sam & Mark's Big Friday Wind Up, Pop Idol) and Chris Collins (Blue Peter, Gardeners' World).



Growing To Love Tomatoes

## What did schools report?



The children really enjoyed it



It was easy to deliver



It helps us deliver the curriculum



The children seemed more willing to eat tomatoes



■ Strongly agree

■ Agree slightly



Growing To Love Tomatoes

## Plants...



Do you have a viable amount of healthy plants for each child?

82%

18%

Will the plants be going home with the children at the end of term?

83%

17%

■ Yes

■ No



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## What did teachers say about the impact...

*This project has sparked a genuine passion for gardening among the children, and it's clear that these early experiences are laying the foundation for a lifelong appreciation of nature, sustainability, and healthy living.*

Barmby Moor Primary, East Yorkshire

*The programme is simply fantastic. The children can see the whole process of growing tomatoes, from seed to fruit, and for many it is the first time they have grown anything. It is so good that all the resources are provided, because otherwise I would have to buy it all myself. We have loved the videos and the sticker chart too.*

Monk Fryston C Of E primary School, Leeds

*This has been a super programme especially as we had enough resources for all children to get involved. They were engaged and have taken their tomato plants home which they were very excited about.*

Carlton Junior & Infant School, Wakefield

*The programme has had a huge impact on our children - to a level which we could not have imagined. We have children who want to be head gardeners!*

Balby Central Primary Academy, Doncaster



## What did teachers say about the resources...

*This was a fantastic activity and we loved taking part. The resources were brilliant and of fantastic quality. The children absolutely loved this and it really helped us to deliver the curriculum to show growing and changes. It also promotes healthy lifestyle choices and hopefully creates enthusiasm for 'growing your own' in the future.*

Dagnall VA CE School, Berkhamsted

*We all absolutely LOVE it and we have a school full of radish lovers! It has been fantastic for the children to see where food actually comes from and have the responsibility to grow their own. This linked with Eat Them to Defeat Them has been a great addition to our curriculum. Many positive comments from parents too.*

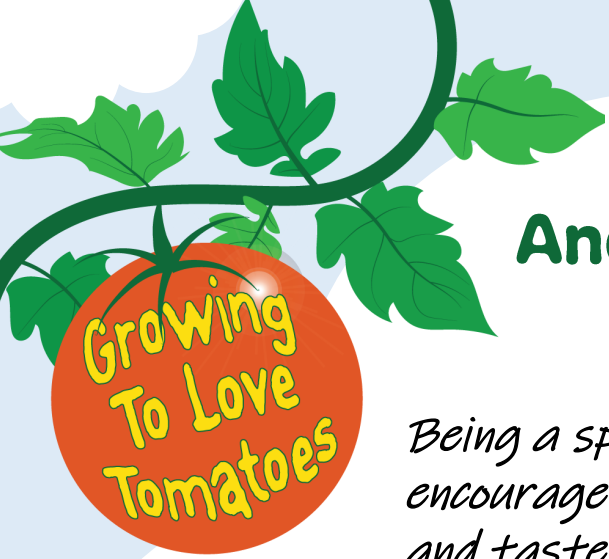
Castlewood Primary, Horsham

*The sequencing of the project has been great and clear. The children have not only learned how tomatoes grow but earned ownership over their plants and take pride in their care for it.*

Ravenscroft Primary School, Newham

*The pure excitement of the children for growing their tomatoes has been an absolute delight. Lots of the children were clamouring to see them when they returned after half term.*

St. Wilfrid's CoE Primary, Haywards Heath



## And special schools too...

*Being a special school, it can be difficult to encourage our children to try new textures and tastes. Growing from seed after showing them what will grow is an excellent way of them taking ownership of their food and food choices.*

Elm Court School, Lambeth

*We are a special needs school and having hands on experiences are so important for our children. Also it helps them to learn that food just doesn't arrive in a supermarket.*

Herons Dale Primary School, Shoreham-by-sea

*We have loved taking part in this programme. As a very small ASN school every pupil has been able to take part and grow their own plants, many of the pupils sharing their plants with family and friends as we produced so many!*

Pirrig Park School, Edinburgh

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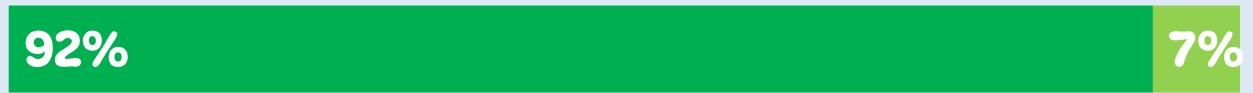
# How did you find the resources we provided?



Teachers Guide



Lesson plans



Online videos



Vinecraft craft project



- We used them and they worked very well
- Agree slightWe used them and they worked well



## What did teachers say about the resources...

*The resources are of such a high quality that it makes the programme very worth while. We have an abundance of seedlings for the children to take home.*

Monk Fryston C Of E Primary School, Leeds

*It was wonderful, it contained everything we needed.*

Bearbrook Combined School, Aylesbury

*The resources provided were of excellent standard and there was plenty to go around all the children. The videos were easy for the children to understand.*

Seymour Primary School, Crawley

*The growing resources you gave us in the kits were excellent. Such nice quality gardening kit and superb additional supporting documentation and activities!*

Granton Primary School, Edinburgh, Scotland

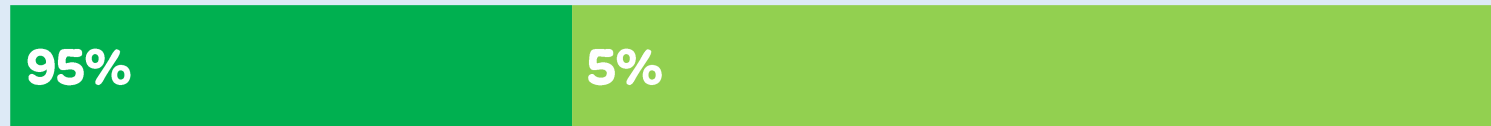
*Growing resources were fantastic*

Wybourn Primary School , Sheffield



## Wish to participate again...

If it was up to me we would choose to participate again next year



I would recommend this programme to another school



■ Strongly agree

■ Agree slightly

*Been doing it for years and the kids really enjoy it*  
Homefield Primary, Worthing

Many thanks to all the partners and funders who make this programme possible

