

Gardens for Good

By Catherine and Ansley

1. Observe and Research

Ansley and Catherine collected information on their topic from several sources before writing.

2. Visualize

The girls use appropriate adjectives for this informative purpose.

3. Consider Audience

This article uses the short paragraphs and direct sentences common to newspapers for readers who want information.

4. Organize

The article is logical in its presentation of information and definitions.

5. Revise

Class editors read the girls' article to make sure it flowed, was grammatically correct, and fit the allotted space. They determined there was room for this short conclusion.

In areas where it is hard to access fresh produce, people are creating a new way to access fresh fruits and vegetables. The nearest grocery store could be 10 miles away, and the people in need of fresh foods may not own a car. According to the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service, food deserts are "defined as urban neighborhoods and rural towns without ready access to fresh, healthy, and affordable food."

A way people in these areas are preventing this problem is by creating food gardens. A food garden is a community garden.

Community gardens are gardens where residents can grow fresh, raw food in the surrounding neighborhoods. These gardens help people who only have access to fast and processed foods to get the nutrients needed. These fresh foods can improve people's life span and decrease the risk of many diseases. Raised beds growing fresh food are occurring more often throughout Memphis. These gardens not only help those struggling financially to get fresh food, but they also bring the community closer. They work together to attend this shared garden space to keep it living and healthy. Everyone has to pitch in; furthermore, if they help with the garden, they get the fruits and vegetables.

A lack of access to food is not the only characteristic of food deserts; food deserts also have a surplus of convenience stores and fast-food restaurants. The end result is obesity and other diseases.

Food gardens are helping people in food deserts. People who live in food deserts can benefit from learning to grow and to preserve food and then preserve it to make it last longer.