

Write and Present a Persuasive Speech about the Value of School Kitchen Gardens

Subject English

Years 9

Learning Intention

Students will develop their persuasive speaking skills by preparing and delivering a speech that argues for the importance of a school kitchen garden, using rhetorical devices, evidence and engaging language to influence their audience.

Links to curriculum

Strands

- Listening, Speaking

Sub strands

- 9.2 Communication and Interaction
- 9.5 Public speaking

Learning Outcomes

- 9.2.3 Listen to and understand a wide variety of speaking situations in both formal and informal situations and respond in other forms.
- 9.5.1 present themselves competently and independently in a variety of speaking situations.

Teaching Activity

Materials

- Phone or other recording equipment to develop a podcast or video (optional).

Activity Description

Imagine you are presenting to the school leadership team to advocate for increased funding and support for the school kitchen garden. You will craft and deliver a speech to persuade them.

Speech Structure

Prepare a persuasive speech (3–4 minutes) that:

1. **Engages the audience:** Start with a rhetorical question, a powerful statistic or a personal anecdote about gardening.
2. **Explains the benefits:** Discuss how a school kitchen garden enhances learning (e.g. science, sustainability, teamwork), promotes wellbeing and benefits the environment.
3. **Addresses counterarguments:** Acknowledge and refute concerns (e.g. cost, maintenance, space constraints).
4. **Calls to action:** End with a strong, memorable statement urging the school to invest in the garden.

Success Criteria

- ✓ Uses persuasive techniques such as:
 - ethos

- pathos
 - logos
 - rhetorical questions
 - repetition.
- ✓ Speaks clearly and confidently, with appropriate tone and emphasis.
 - ✓ Uses varied sentence structures and engaging language.
 - ✓ Organise ideas logically with a strong introduction, body and conclusion.

Extension

Record your speech as a podcast or video and share it with the school community.