

Crafting a Persuasive Speech About the Value of School Kitchen Gardens

Subject English
Years 9–10, 11–12

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.

Curriculum links

English

Strand: EN9.1 Listening and Speaking EN 11.1 Listening and Speaking

Sub-strand:

EN 9.1.1 EN9.1.1 Text types: media, everyday communication, literary texts

EN 11.1.1 Communication Text types – media, everyday communication, literary texts.

EN 11.1.2 Language Features and Rules

Learning Outcome

- EN 9.1.1.2 Demonstrate concepts, skills and values respective to listening and speaking skills and relate it to a range of everyday conversation.
- EN 11.1.1.1 Create and present a variety of oral and /or visual text types to communicate ideas for a particular audience, purpose and context.
- EN 11.1.2.1 Apply appropriate verbal and nonverbal language features to effectively communicate information for a particular audience, purpose and context

Teaching Activity

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.