1. Garden Treasure Mailbox
Where to put that snake skin, mouse skull, or one-of-a-kind shell that accidentally got picked? In the garden mail, of course! Our garden mailbox provides an exciting place for kids to place their treasures, where they know other kids will be able to check them out. This is a helpful outlet when kids are tempted to take treasures home.

2. Tree O'Tunes
Fun recycled instruments do more than make sounds; they also deter kids from climbing this brittle-branched tree (we have plenty of other good trees to climb). View photos of creative elements for educational gardens at www.lifelab.org/gardenphotos.

3. Chickens
Learn more at www.backyardchickens.com. Read about our chickens and download a plan for our next box at www.lifelab.org/meet-our-chickens

4. Worms
Learn how to worm compost in the Gardening How To appendix of The Growing Classroom. Or check out worm composting resources and our video on composting with worms. Have you ever played a round of Worm Bin Bingo? Well, now you can, at www.lifelab.org/worms. 

5. Compost Piles
Whether you are attempting to cut your school district's food waste by using municipal composting facilities, adding a compost bin to your school garden, or looking for compost curriculum, our Ultimate School Garden Compost pages are for you! See more at www.lifelab.org/composting. Our Rot Zone sign designs are available for purchase at www.lifelab.org/garden-signs. If you have Life Lab's The Growing Classroom Activity Guide check out the “Let's Make a Compost Cake” lesson.

6. Sundial
Directions to lay out your own sundial can be found at www.lifelab.org/human-sundial/

7. Circle Bench
An outdoor gathering area is a great addition to any educational garden. We've included many areas for groups to gather in our garden. Outdoor teaching tips face the sun when teaching outdoors so that your students have their backs to the sun. Make your own circle bench with straw bales or tree stumps. View outdoor classroom gathering area photos at www.lifelab.org/gardenphotos.

8. Bee Hive
Learn more about bees at www.greatflower.org, www.beegirl.org, and www.pollinators.org. We custom-made our observational beehive. Learn how to make your own or buy one at www.beesfirms.com/beeobservationhives.htm or www.bombertable.com

9. Themed Garden Area
In our main garden area we have the following theme beds: Tea Bed, Dried Flower Bed, Pollinator Beds, Plant Adaptations Bed (tropical, succulent, and carnivorous), Birds, Bees, Bats, Butterflies, and Beyond, Zoo Bed, Apple Room. Perennials serve as the foundation for our garden and provide habitat, pollen and beauty. Other theme beds you can make includes Soup Bed, Pizza Bed, MyPlate Bed, Salad Bed, Salad Bed, Stir Fry Bed, History Bed, Literature Bed (grow plants you read about), Native Plants, Three Sisters Bed (corn, beans, & squash) Make your own zoo bed. This book will help: The Zoo Garden: Forty Animal-Named Plants Families Can Grow Together by Chris Hastings. View and read about our Zoo Bed at www.lifelab.org/construction

10. Apple Room
The walls of our apple room are espalier apple trees. Espalier is a formal tree training method that looks neat and saves space in your garden.

11. Weather Station
What would you put in your weather station? Thermometer, barometer, anemometer, wind sock, weather van, hygrometer? Have your class join the GLOBE weather program www.globe.gov

12. Pond
Papyrus is one plant that was once used for paper-making. It likes growing in moist places.

13. Tunnel
Our willow and bamboo structure is covered in the orange-flowered Thunbergia vine which is also known as he black-eyed susan vine. Other fast-growing vines, grasses (annual, good in hot climates), potato vine, star jasmine, trumpet vine (fits on our fence behind the pond), morning glory (annuals and perennials)

14. Solar Bird Bath
Turn or cover the solar panel to stop the flow. Check www.solarschoolhouse.orgwww.need.org (National Energy Development) or www.realgoods.com (a place to buy solar items).

15. Root View Box
There are plans to make root view boxes, big and small, in the back of The Growing Classroom Activity Guide. If you make a root view box, make sure to place it on leaves to shine on the roots. Chard and Nigella ("Love in a Mist") are great plants to include because they have colored roots! Learn to make a root view cup at our Easy School Garden Activity Playlist at youtube.com/lifelabvideos

Plant these ingredients: tomatoes, basil, garlic, onions, peppers, artichokes, egg plants, squash for the cow (cheese) and pigs. (Canadian bacon, ham, sausage, pepperoni), and wheat around the edge for the crust. Want to learn how to make the garden beds in our garden? Visit www.lifelab.org/bedwork. Learn how to install drip irrigation at www.driptrimming.com

17. Garden Kitchen
Some of our favorite cooking activities with kids are making corn tortillas and salsa, grilling whole wheat and making mini pizzas or jumbo pretzels, garden herb奥运会, pickled zucchini, squash, hummus and solar baked treats. Buy a Sun Oven online (~$250) or make your own www.solarecook.com or check out The Growing Classroom Activity Guide lesson "A Shoebox of Sunshine". Amazon.com sells solar cooking books as well. View photos of educational garden kitchen and sink at www.lifelab.org/gardenphotos

18. Rainwater Catchment System
Our rain barrel holds 1,000 gallons and the water can connect to our vegetable bed drip irrigation system. GrowNYC has a comprehensive guide for creating raincatchment systems for educational gardens www.grownyc.org/openspace/rainwater-harvesting www.harvestingrainwater.com is another excellent resource.

19. Orchard and Berries
Most of our trees are grafted on dwarf rootstock to keep them small. This is ideal for school gardens that don’t have much space and the trees can be harvested and cared for without the use of a ladder. Learn more about growing trees in small spaces at http://www.daveland.com/home/gardens/backyard-orchard-culture

20. Food, What?! Field
Learn more about our awesome youth empowerment program at www.foodwhat.org

See more ideas to bring learning to life in the garden at www.lifelab.org/gardenphotos