




The Children's Garden &
Exploring Toronto Programs

Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division

Present

A basket of fresh vegetables including a yellow squash, a zucchini, a tomato, and an eggplant.

An exciting new project providing the public with a source of inspiration for sustainable living practices in the City of Toronto.

A straw bale building with a green roof, solar and wind power.

The Children's Teaching Kitchen

A demonstration of sustainable building to conserve energy and reduce waste.

A shining example of green living in the City of Toronto.

The Children's Garden - A Brief History

Unused picnic shelter and parking lot plagued by safety issues...



..Transformed to the High Park Children's Garden

The Children's Garden - A Great Success



Ten Years Later

- A beautiful community haven
- A cherished teaching space
- Publicly recognized through awards

The Programs Grow



Eco Camp



School Programs



Youth Cooking Program



Community Events



Watch Me Grow
Family Drop-In Program

- Expand programs annually
- Provide training and support
- Work with 29 community centres



Meeting Community Demand





- RED sites have children's garden and eco programming
- GREEN sites offer other types of nature and eco Programming

The Children's Teaching Kitchen



- Year-round programming and training
 - Reduce carbon footprint
- Municipal facility and green demonstration site
 - Straw bale walls and reclaimed materials
 - An innovative model for Toronto

Straw Bale Buildings

Environmentally friendly, strong, fire resistant and creative



- Highly energy efficient
- New use for waste material
- Locally sourced and inexpensive
- Structures are long lasting

Teaching Kitchen's Key Features



Green Roof



Wind Turbine



Radiant Floor Heating



Solar Water Heater



Solar Panels

Benefits of the Children's Teaching Kitchen



- Extend programming season
- Support garden harvesting and preservation
 - Develop new programming specialty
 - Outstanding and welcoming space



New Programming

- Fall Garden Programming
- Year-round nature programs
- Expanded cooking programs
- March Break Camps and Earth Day Celebrations
- Sustainable Building Workshops
- Green technology and energy conservation school programs