Always the Season for Giving

The garden is producing beautiful berries and plentiful grapes. A healthy harvest means the children are involved in conversations and activities related to donations to our local Food Pantry!

- **Yellow** Door has been learning about climate and native Missouri plants. The children worked hard on creating their own maps of the Learning Garden (see pictures) and identified where our plants originated from around the nation and world!
- **Blue** Door hosted their own family garden event complete with music and books (and shade!). Toddlers have also been measuring our growing corn with string. It’s now taller than they are!
- **Green** Door has really been enjoying the purple grapes and blackberries growing in the garden. On a recent visit, they assisted with sign-making and discussed beginning letter sounds in the garden.
- **Red** Door has discussed composting and taken an interest in our new compost bin. The children have been mindful of what natural things served at breakfast, lunch, and snack they can add to the compost and take trips multiple times a week to add to the bin.

**Visits to the People’s Garden with Mr. Jim**

This past month has included a lot of harvesting. The children have helped harvest radishes, beets, greens, green and purple beans, peppers, broccoli, and cabbage. This month, thanks to those heavy cabbage heads, the children helped contribute **46lb** of produce to the local food pantry!

**Mark your calendar!**

**Families Gathering in the Garden**

Wednesday, July 26th
4:30-5:45pm

Come taste, harvest for our Food Pantry donation, and explore with your child!

**Farm-to-Table at the CDL**

The CDL is lucky to have a very talented chef, Chef Shelly, who is excited and eager to use fresh produce from our garden. So far this season she has cooked beet greens and added garden-grown grapes and blackberries to fruit salad. Not to mention, she is always using fresh garden herbs - thyme, basil, and garlic! Yum! The freshness of farm-to-table is happening right here at the CDL!
Warm Summer Days in the Garden

Snapshots of CDL children enjoying the garden both inside and outside their classrooms.