

Approach: One to one  
 Focus: Requirements for successful gardens  
 Resources: Picture

Year: 4 & 8

Questions / instructions:

Hand student picture.

Here is a picture of a school garden that was made by teachers and children.



1. Why do you think the teachers and children made this garden at their school?

not marked

The garden is growing very well.

2. What might the teachers and children have done to get the plants in their garden to grow so well?

	y4	y8
obtain good seeds/plants	1	1
use good soil (incl. worms)	9	20
add compost, fertiliser, etc.	9	32
water regularly and appropriately	71	87
remove weeds or prevent/suppress weed growth	3	12
position and structure (sun, wind protected, stakes for plants)	34	44

Plants in gardens often have to be protected from pests and disease.

3. What garden pests and disease can cause damage to plants?

4. What could the teachers and children do to protect their plants against pests and disease?

**Walking animals on ground:**

(rabbits, possums, etc.)

	y4	y8
mentioned, with appropriate protection ideas	6	8
mentioned	16	16
not mentioned	78	76

**Slugs, snails, etc:**

	y4	y8
mentioned, with appropriate protection ideas	14	26
mentioned	29	38
not mentioned	57	36

**Birds:**

	y4	y8
mentioned, with appropriate protection ideas	5	10
mentioned	9	12
not mentioned	86	78

**Other flying creatures:**

(moths, butterflies, aphids etc.)

	y4	y8
mentioned, with appropriate protection ideas	6	10
mentioned	19	29
not mentioned	75	61

**Diseases:**

(e.g. blights, fungi, mildew, rotting)

	y4	y8
mentioned, with appropriate protection ideas	0	1
mentioned	1	3
not mentioned	99	96

**Overall rating for pests, diseases, protection:**

	y4	y8
very good/excellent	0	4
good	10	20
moderate/weak	52	64
no idea	38	12

5. Why do you think this school garden has been built up from the ground?

**To make it easier to look after and protect:**

(e.g. people running through the garden)

	y4	y8
both	1	3
easier to look after	3	5
protection	28	47
no idea	68	45
to provide greater depth of soil	5	9
to improve drainage	1	2

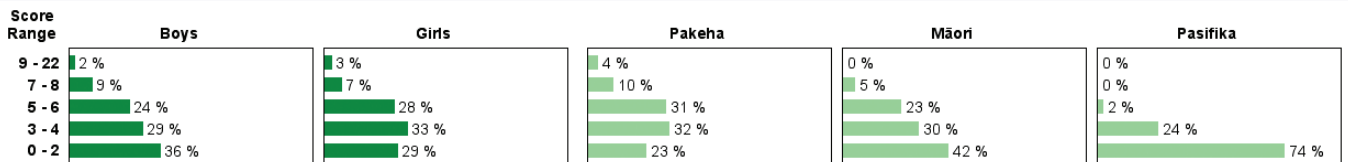
6. Do you have a garden at home?

	y4	y8
yes, specifically child's	3	3
yes	81	75
no	16	22

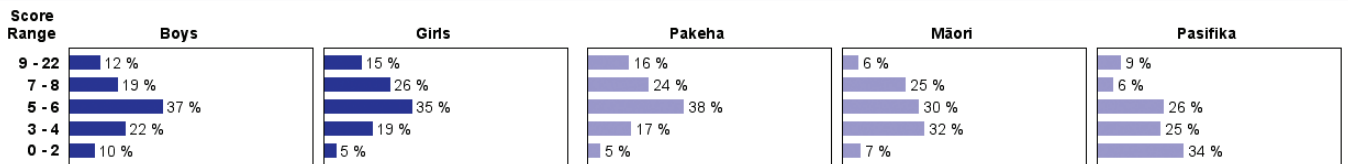
Total score:	y4	y8
9-22	3	13
7-8	8	23
5-6	26	36
3-4	31	20
0-2	32	8

Subgroup Analyses:

Year 4



Year 8



Commentary:

Despite most students indicating that there was a garden at their home, the requirements for successful gardens were not well understood by most students. Pasifika students had particularly low scores at both year levels.