

2/7/2007 9:00 am

Plan Summary

Plan Originator	Lisa Whittlesey
Plan Title	Junior Master Gardener - Model Plan (Outcome)
Plan Type	Outcome
Plan ID	7317
Program Area Category	4-H & Youth >> Curriculum Enrichment & Special Interest >> Junior Master Gardener
Other Personnel Involved	
Issue Source	TCFF Issue, Specialists/RPD, Emerging Issue
Description	<p>Discussion: The following information describes "general" issues related to the Junior Master Gardener program. Agents should customize these statements with issue descriptions that are specific to your county situation. The Junior Master Gardener program represents over ¼ of the Texas 4-H enrollment. The JMG program is currently used through community clubs, after school and school based programs. Enrollment numbers continue to climb due to increased participation through public schools. The JMG program has had documented success in schools validated by research studies indicating an increase in science achievement scores, increased parental involvement, improved leadership/community service, and increase knowledge and consumption of fruits and vegetables for children participating in the Junior Master Gardener Program. The purpose of the Junior Master Gardener program is to grow good kids through igniting a passion for learning, success, and service through a unique gardening education. The following are brief statements that generally describe the goals of the Junior Master Gardener program. Select the issue statement (s) that match the objective (s) selected in the outcome program title. The principle goals of the Junior Master Gardener program include: Interest and academic achievement in science Texas schools are under many demands to perform well on the standardized TAKS test. Since the introduction of the test, students have been tested at various grade levels for achievement of skills in math, language arts, and writing. As a result of Senate Bill 103 and the introduction of Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS), students are now tested on their ability to demonstrate an understanding of natural sciences, life sciences, physical sciences, and earth sciences. School districts are anxious to find science curriculum that will help students master the knowledge and skills required by the state mandated standards. Environmental stewardship Landscape irrigation in Texas accounts for up to 40-60% of the total residential water use during peak summer months. Water conservation is a critically important issue for residents throughout the state of Texas. Moreover, proper use of fertilizers and chemicals wastes is important to the long term health and safety of residents in the county. Finally, programs that promote reduction of landscape wastes and recycling will assist in maintaining land fill availability. This issue is critically important in preserving and protecting our valuable natural resources. Healthy and active lifestyles through improved diet and physical activity Experts continue to promote healthy diets and life styles including exercise, reduced fat diets, and increased consumption of fruits and vegetables as an important factor in maintaining long-term human health. Unfortunately, research studies indicate that a high percentage of youths do not eat healthy diets and exercise regularly, which has resulted in increased childhood obesity and poor nutritional eating habits. This issue is critically important to improving the health and well being of the children of Texas. Leadership development and community service Juvenile crime, school violence, and in detrimental youth activities including drug/alcohol abuse, bullying, coupled with poor youth self esteem have been manifested in an increase of youth violence and crimes. A comprehensive prevention strategy that will engage youth in positive, worthwhile activities at an early age that foster leadership development, positive success and reinforcement, positive peer and adult role models, and engage youth in service learning projects are critical to improving youth quality in local communities..</p>
Target Audience	Volunteers and Youth
Start and End Dates	01/01/2007 through 12/31/2007
Program Goal Description	The purpose of the Junior Master Gardener program is to grow good kids through igniting a passion for learning, success, and service through a unique gardening education.
Client Change	Behavior Change/Adoption of Best Practice or Technology
Objective Indicator	The following information describes "general" outcome indicators related to the Junior Master Gardener program. Agents should customize these statements with outcome indicators that are specific to your county situation. Each outcome program typically has 5-10 outcome indicators. These should be written concisely toward reaching the project

outcome. Some examples include: Interest and academic achievement in science Identify parts and understand relationships of plants, seeds, and flowers Understand the importance and use of plants Identify parts of the water cycle Identify parts of an insect Understand relationships between plants, water, soil, and other living organisms Understand and use of scientific process to solve problems Use of scientific methods to determine if an answer is reasonable Environmental stewardship Use of native/adapted plant materials suitable for area Use of compost and mulch in the garden/landscape Use of improved water delivery system Use of integrated pest management Reduction and recycling of materials to preserve natural environment Balance and interaction of organisms in natural environment Establishment of gardens to serve as habitats for wildlife Healthy and active lifestyles through improved diet and physical activity Identify sections of the food guide pyramid Read food labels to make more informed food choices Increase consumption of fruits and vegetables Grow fruits and vegetables for consumption Preparation of produce to make healthy meals and snacks Using food safe handling techniques for good health Leadership development and community service Improve self esteem and self image Learn to work with a variety of people Communicating effectively with others Setting goals and making necessary steps to achieving them Planning to solve problems and make good decisions Exhibiting increased responsibility Donating time and talents through community service projects Specific evaluation tools are available to support these outcome indicators on 4-H One and through the JMG State Program Office.

Percent Time 5
 Volunteers Involved Y
 Collaborators
 Date Added 09/01/2006
 Date Last Modified **09/15/2006**

Planned Tasks

Task Type Planning Groups
 Event Title Junior Master Gardener Program Task Force (*Task ID 166121*)
 (Lead: Whittlesey)
 Group (Committee) Name Junior Master Gardener Program Task Forc
 Planning Group Type Task Force
 Nature of Meeting Planning
 Event Date 01/01/2007
 Anticipated no. of attendees 0
 Others involved
 Notes/comments Discussion: Grassroots involvement has helped Extension maintain relevance with clientele for many decades. In order for agents to be most efficient at developing and implementing quality educational programs for Junior Master Gardener, it is imperative that counties partner with community leaders and stakeholders. Many counties utilize task forces to help plan, implement, and evaluate educational programs. A Junior Master Gardener task force can be valuable for addressing targeted issues related to local Junior Master Gardener programs. A task force may be used when 1) committee members have strong personal interest in the children (youth leaders/volunteers, school teachers and ISD's, and other agencies who do youth programs, etc.) 2) committee members have strong personal interest in the content (nursery or green industry representatives, nutrition professionals, Keep America Beautiful, Parks employees, etc). Proper utilization of task forces and volunteers through this effort can assist in providing visioning, leadership, and expanded support for the county Junior Master Gardener program.

Date task #166121 was last modified **09/15/2006**

Task Type Marketing/Promotion
 Event Title Marketing the Junior Master Gardener Program to potential audiences including school programs, 4-H clubs, project clubs, and after school programs. (*Task ID 166124*)
 (Lead: Whittlesey)
 Type of Marketing/Promotion Event Multiple Types
 Event Date 01/01/2007

Others involved

Notes/comments Discussion: Marketing and promotion are essential to success in developing an Extension education program for Junior Master Gardener. The Junior Master Gardener program can be utilized with a school program as school enrichment, community 4-H clubs, project clubs, or utilized as a part of after school programs. The Junior Master Gardener program provides a variety of marketing and promotional materials available on the AGENTS ONLY section of the JMG website including: promotional cut sheets/handouts, logo's and JMG artwork, training program agendas, and powerpoint presentations. This site also includes an overview of the newest JMG water curriculum coming out later in 2006/2007. These materials can be used to promote specific JMG events/activities or as a part of a more general promotional campaign. In addition, the JMG Program Office (979.845.8565) can put together press packets/folders for you to use to introduce the JMG program to new clientele. These are attractive pieces that are good to use with decision makers and donors. Finally, the Extension library has JMG promotional banners that are available to be checked out for use at county JMG events.

Date task #166124 was last modified **09/15/2006**

Task Type Educational Methods

Event Title Junior Master Gardener Teacher/Leader Training Workshop (*Task ID 166125*)
(Lead: Whittlesey)

Ed. Method Type Group

Group Method Type

Technology used, if selected n/a

Event Date 01/01/2007

Anticipated no. of attendees 0

Others involved

Notes/comments Discussion: A group meeting is one of the most traditional and effective means of communicating Extension educational information. The JMG program and curriculum is an approved/accredited workshop through the Texas Education Agency. This means as an agency we can offer professional development credits (SBEC) for teachers that attend JMG teacher training programs. The JMG program provides support materials for conducting teacher/leader training programs including powerpoint presentations, training agenda/activity lists, handouts, and training evaluation forms. The JMG training programs can provide an overview of all curriculum or could focus on a particular JMG curriculum and/or one of the 4 principle goals of the JMG program. Typically a JMG training workshop for teachers is a 6 hour workshop.

Date task #166125 was last modified **09/15/2006**

Task Type Educational Methods

Event Title Junior Master Gardener Certification (*Task ID 166127*)
(Lead: Whittlesey)

Ed. Method Type Group

Group Method Type

Technology used, if selected n/a

Event Date 01/01/2007

Anticipated no. of attendees 0

Others involved

Notes/comments There are lots of choices for you depending on the JMG curricula or certification that you chose to work toward. Included in this packet are educational methods that coordinate with each of the JMG certifications. Children can attain JMG certification by completing 1 group activity and 1 individual activity from each teaching concept covered in the 8 chapters of the JMG Level 1 Core curriculum. In addition, youth should complete 8 service learning projects. This is the highest level of JMG certification and youth will have the most exposure to all teaching concepts by completing this certification. JMG Certification is the highest level of participation. Youth completing this certification will have completed activities with their JMG group/class and also will have done individual activities on their own or at home. In addition, youth will have completed 8 service projects. Length to

complete this certification depends on the activities chosen by both the teacher and youth. Many school based groups have finished in a semester by doing activities once or twice a week. To complete JMG certification, youth should complete the following: Level 1 JMG Teacher/Leader Guide Chapter 1 Plant Growth and Development 7 teaching concepts (in bold in curriculum) ? Select 1 group and 1 individual activity for each learning concept. Total of 14 activities & 1 service project Chapter 2 Soils and Water 5 teaching concepts (in bold in curriculum) ? Select 1 group and 1 individual activity for each learning concept. Total of 10 activities & 1 service project Chapter 3 Ecology and Environmental Horticulture 5 teaching concepts (in bold in curriculum) ? Select 1 group and 1 individual activity for each learning concept. Total of 10 activities & 1 service project Chapter 4 Insects and Diseases 6 teaching concepts (in bold in curriculum) ? Select 1 group and 1 individual activity for each learning concept. Total of 12 activities & 1 service project Chapter 5 Landscape Horticulture 4 teaching concepts (in bold in curriculum) ? Select 1 group and 1 individual activity for each learning concept. Total of 8 activities & 1 service project Chapter 6 Fruits and Nuts 3 teaching concepts (in bold in curriculum) ? Select 1 group and 1 individual activity for each learning concept. Total of 6 activities & 1 service project Chapter 7 Vegetables and Herbs 5 teaching concepts (in bold in curriculum) ? Select 1 group and 1 individual activity for each learning concept. Total of 10 activities & 1 service project Chapter 8 Life Skills and Career Exploration 6 teaching concepts (in bold in curriculum) ? Select 1 group and 1 individual activity for each learning concept. Total of 12 activities & 1 service project Students completing the JMG certification have completed the highest level of participation in the program. Any of the evaluation pieces could be utilized or a combination of all 4 could be used.

Date task #166127 was last modified **09/15/2006**

Task Type Educational Methods
 Event Title Junior Master Gardener Golden Ray Certification (*Task ID 166128*)
 (Lead: Whittlesey)
 Ed. Method Type Group
 Group Method Type
 Technology used, if selected n/a
 Event Date 01/01/2007
 Anticipated no. of attendees 0
 Others involved
 Notes/comments Discussion: There are lots of choices for you depending on the JMG curricula or chapter in the core curriculum that youth are completing. Youth can attain JMG Golden Ray certification by completing 12 learning experiences, 1 leadership activity, and 1 community service project. These can be done for any of the 8 chapters of the Level 1 Teacher/Leader Guide. (EX: Youth could complete any 12 learning experiences from Chapter 1 Plant Growth and Development, 1 leadership activity, and 1 service project and get Golden Ray Certification for that chapter) This certification is ideal for teachers or leaders have a particular interest in a certain topic (Example: Plant Growth and Development, Soils & Water, Ecology, Insects, etc) and do not want to or have the time to complete the more intensive Junior Master Gardener Certification. Youth can also get JMG Golden Ray certification by completing 12 learning experiences, 1 leadership activity and 1 community service project from any of the stand alone JMG Golden Ray Curricula including: Health and Nutrition from the Garden Wildlife Gardener Literature from the Garden The 12 learning experiences can be a combination of group or individual activities. It is highly recommended that youth complete at least 1 activity from each teaching concept in order that they have a good overview of the content covered in the chapter and/or stand alone curriculum unit. JMG Golden Ray Certification is recognizes youth for completing 12 learning experiences, 1 leadership activity and 1 service project either from a chapter in the Level 1 Core curriculum unit or from a stand alone JMG Golden Ray Curriculum Length to complete this certification depends on the activities chosen by both the teacher and youth.

Date task #166128 was last modified **09/15/2006**

Task Type Evaluation
 Event Title Evaluation for _____ County Junior Master Gardener Program (*Task ID 166130*)
 (Lead: Whittlesey)
 Evaluation strategy Retrospective Post

Data collection strategy In Person Survey
 Sampling methodology Census (all participants)
 Event Date 01/01/2007
 Will economic data be sought? No
 Others involved
 Notes/comments There are several evaluation instruments available through 4-H One. These include a comprehensive evaluation for youth completing JMG certification. In addition, a leadership/life skill evaluation is available for use with any JMG program. Specific content questions for stand alone Golden Ray Series curriculum will also be available.

Date task #166130 was last modified **09/15/2006**

Task Type Individual Development
 Event Title Junior Master Gardener Website (*Task ID 166133*)
 (Lead: Whittlesey)
 Competency Personal Effectiveness
 Type of professional activity Publications and Printed Resources
 Name of hosting organization
 Indiv Dev activity description
 Location level at which program will be offered National
 City and State
 Start, End dates 01/01/2007 through 00/00/0000
 Credit or certification Not Applicable
 Hours, college credit or certification (if applicable) n/a
 Est. actual hours of individual development for this program (not including travel, meals, etc) n/a
 Notes/comments Agent only website www.jmgkids.us/tce contains specific information for agents to assist them in being able to provide more effective training programs and outreach. New information is posted as it becomes available.

Date task #166133 was last modified **09/15/2006**

Task Type Interpretation
 Event Title Interpret Junior Master Gardener to stakeholders (*Task ID 166136*)
 (Lead: Whittlesey)
 Type of Interpretation Event Mass Media
 Event Date 01/01/2007
 Anticipated no. of attendees 0
 Others involved
 Notes/comments The opportunity for stakeholders to see the impact of Extension programs can be a powerful tool in generating future support. Remember that you base interpretation on the relevance, response, and results of the program to the community.

Date task #166136 was last modified **09/15/2006**

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