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## FRIDAY, MAY 29, 2009

## Child Care Center receives Cornell garden grant

Mount Kisco Child Care received a grant from Cornell University for Kids Growing Food, a New York Agriculture in the Classroom program, that has helped create and support over 300 school food gardens. For more than 10 years the program has provided K-12 students throughout New York with hands-on food-growing experiences. Mimi Edelman will serve as MKCCC's garden project director. Kids Growing Food gardens help raise teachers' and students' agricultural awareness by making links to agriculture, food systems and good nutrition. The garden also serves as a "garden classroom." Garden-based lessons are integrated into such regular classroom studies as math, science, language arts and history, helping teachers meet core curriculum

requirements. Growing food at school helps students gain an understanding of how the local food system works and serves as a link to local farmers, businesses and others involved in agriculture. Kids Growing Food garden grant recipients are awarded \$500 as "seed" money to help purchase necessary supplies to get their gardens growing. In addition, recipients receive educational resources, workshop opportunities and access to a growing network of school food gardeners through the Kids Growing Food Network.

For more information, call New York Agriculture in the Classroom within Cornell University's department of education at 607-255-9252, visit www.nyaged.org/aitc or e-mail to hed24@cornell.edu.