

# Earth Competencies

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## Life Learning Academy Earth Major Competencies

Upon graduation from Life Learning Academy, students in the Earth Major will demonstrate competency in each of the following **areas** through the **means** listed below.

AREA	MEANS
<b>Ecology</b>	A. Students will <b>pass Ecology</b> class with a grade of C or better.
<b>Gardening</b>	<p>A. <b>Planting</b> - Verbally and through demonstration, students will exhibit proper planting and maintenance techniques for vegetables and ornamental shrubs.</p> <p>B. <b>Composting</b> - Students will be able to explain the benefits and methods of composting food and yard scraps. They will manage the kitchen composting system and maintain the school compost pile.</p>
<b>Landscaping</b>	<p>A. <b>Design</b> – Students will be able to read and create scale drawings and models. Students will design and create layout and planting for new landscapes.</p> <p>B. <b>Plant Selection</b> – Using research methods, students will be able to explain characteristics of various ornamental plants and determine suitability of given plants to certain habitats and/or environmental conditions.</p>
<b>Construction</b>	<p>A. <b>Plan</b> – Each semester, students will formulate and verbally explain an idea about a structure they build. Examples may include a bookshelf, a bench, a planterbox, etc. Students will determine purpose, function and size.</p> <p>B. <b>Design</b> – Students will create sketches of their purposed structures and estimate and justify material needs and completion costs of each project.</p> <p>C. <b>Build</b> – Students will demonstrate proper use of the following tools in building their structures: measuring tape, saws (hand, table, skill, and miter) hammer and nails, drills and screws, sander, level, squares.</p> <p>D. <b>Safety</b> – Students will demonstrate, verbally and practically, safe and proper use of basic safety gear and all hand and power tools that they use for a given project.</p> <p>E. <b>Other Skills</b> – In addition to wood construction skills, students will demonstrate safe and proper technique in at least two of the following areas: electrical, framing, demolition, painting, plumbing, concrete.</p>