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UNH's Growing A Green Generation Project Wins Preschool Gardening Award

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DURHAM, N.H. - The Growing a Green Generation Project, an initiative of the University of New Hampshire's Child Study and Development Center (CSDC), has been awarded a 2008 Wuzzleburg Preschool Garden Award by the National Gardening Association and sponsor "Wow! Wow! Wubbzy!" One of only 75 recipients nationwide, the project was selected for its demonstrated commitment to creatively and actively engaging young children in the gardening process as a way to help them get off to a great start and to develop a lifelong love of learning.

The award included a \$1000 package of gardening and nature education supplies. "It's an honor to be recognized for the rewarding work our teachers and horticulture experts do to instill a love of gardening and learning in young children," said John Nimmo, executive director of the CSDC and associate professor of family studies at UNH. "The prizes will help us be even more effective in our efforts."

Beth Hallett, project coordinator and an early childhood teacher at the CSDC, submitted the award proposal as part of efforts to bring greater national attention to the goal of connecting young children to the natural world.

The Growing a Green Generation Project (<http://horticulture.unh.edu/ggg.html>) is a 10-year collaboration between UNH horticulture experts and early childhood teachers and receives generous funding from the Anna and Raymond Tuttle Environmental Horticulture Fund and support from the College of Life Sciences and Agriculture (COLSA) at UNH. The project has developed an early childhood gardening curriculum and disseminates information to educators and the community through an annual conference, national presentations, and publications.

The CSDC is the nationally recognized laboratory school program of the Family Studies Department, serving 122 children and their families, with support from the College of Health and Human Services. For more information, visit csdc.unh.edu.

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Photograph available to download:

<http://www.unh.edu/news/img/CSDC/csdcbentent.jpg>.

Caption: The Growing a Green Generation Project, an initiative of the University of New Hampshire's Child Study and Development Center, received a 2008 Wuzzleburg Preschool

Garden Award from the National Gardening Association.
Credit: Courtesy of UNH Child Study and Development Center.

