

DePue 4-H Little Giants Afterschool Club

In April of 2019, the Master Gardener program partnered with the Bureau County Latino 4-H “Little Giants” Afterschool Program on a project teaching gardening basics and planting a garden in a raised bed located at DePue Middle School. Youth members attended three classes led by Master Gardeners to learn about what a plant is, what it needs to grow, and how to plan a garden design. Outside of the classroom time, youth members assisted in preparing the raised bed by removing weeds and debris, and raking in new topsoil and compost. Following these activities, youth assisted in planting a vegetable garden that included tomatoes, peppers, bush cucumbers and kohlrabi. Youth members and parents tended the garden over the summer pulling weeds, watering and harvesting, with some of the produce grown used as 4-H Fair group project entry at the Bureau County Fair in July. In 2020, Master gardeners will assist in planting the vegetable garden again, as well as turn a second raised bed into a pollinator teaching garden.



Members of the DePue 4-H Little Giants Afterschool Club Pose with Master Gardeners and 4-H Program Coordinator Diana Lopez at the newly planted vegetable garden.