

Grow Learning Pods Impact Report 2025



Learning Pods is an ongoing, year-round educational initiative designed to provide children and their families with consistent, hands-on learning opportunities rooted in eco-literacy, environmental education, STEM, and community engagement. The program operates weekly and supports local families by creating accessible, place-based learning that strengthens connections to science, nature, and the urban environment.

During the last two semesters, the program experienced notable growth in both participation and engagement. Ten families are currently enrolled and attend regularly, taking part in structured activities that span environmental education, science and math exploration, and experiential learning in local parks, neighbourhoods, and community spaces.

Program Achievements

Over the past year, Learning Pods has delivered a diverse suite of activities designed to build confidence, curiosity, and practical knowledge among participants:

- **Eco-Literacy & Environmental Education:** Children explored local ecosystems, participated in water-themed activities, and learned essential principles of water sustainability and conservation.



- **STEM Enrichment:** Weekly sessions integrated science and mathematics through hands-on experiments, problem-solving activities, and nature-based STEM exploration.

- **Food Literacy & Urban Agriculture:** Participants attended farm-to-table cooking classes, learned about food preservation, and explored basic principles of growing food within urban environments.



- **Community Field Experiences:**

- A **grocery store visit** helped children understand nutrition, food systems, and how family food choices influence health and sustainability.
- A **dentist office visit** introduced kids to dental health, anatomy, and wellness practices in an accessible, real-world setting.
- Regular **local park visits** supported environmental awareness, physical activity, and nature-based learning.





Collectively, these experiences created a strong learning ecosystem for children and caregivers, fostering curiosity, independence, and an appreciation for sustainable living. Families consistently reported positive feedback, noting improvements in their children's engagement, confidence, and readiness to explore new concepts.



Community Impact

Learning Pods continues to deliver tangible impact by:

- Strengthening family-centred education and parent involvement.
- Increasing children's exposure to STEM learning in accessible, culturally responsive ways.
- Promoting environmental awareness and eco-literacy from an early age.
- Building community connections through shared learning experiences.
- Providing weekly, reliable programming that supports families seeking educational enrichment outside of formal schooling.

Looking Ahead

As demand for hands-on, community-based education grows, Learning Pods aims to expand its reach and capacity. With additional funding, we intend to:

- Increase the number of families we can serve.
- Expand eco-literacy modules with more advanced environmental education content.
- Offer additional field trips across the city focused on food systems, water management, waste reduction, and urban agriculture.
- Strengthen access to materials, equipment, and supplies that support high-quality STEM activities.
- Build long-term sustainability for the program so it can continue to run consistently year-round.

Our long-term goal is to ensure that every child—regardless of background—has meaningful access to environmental and STEM education that sparks curiosity, builds lifelong skills, and fosters stewardship of the world around them.

Thank You

Learning Pods is a grassroots initiative led and operated by dedicated community members and parents who believe in accessible, hands-on education for all children. We extend our sincere appreciation to the supporters who have helped us bring this vision to life. As a community-driven program, we are actively seeking funders who share our commitment to eco-literacy, STEM education, and sustainable, family-centred learning. Your support directly strengthens the educational landscape for local families and enables Learning Pods to continue growing and serving our community.