

Empowering Families through Home Gardening: A Case Study of the SENCE Agric Advocacy Program

Introduction:

The SENCE Agric Advocacy Program is a transformative initiative aimed at encouraging families to grow their own food, irrespective of the space limitations they may face. By utilizing innovative methods and readily available household materials, such as old buckets, tyres, and sacks, we empower individuals to create thriving home gardens. In this case study, we present the inspiring journey of the Johnson family, who embraced the SENCE Agric Advocacy Program and transformed their limited space into a flourishing home garden.

Background:

The Johnson family resides in the Lekki area of Lagos with minimal outdoor space available for gardening. They faced the common challenge of limited access to fresh, and chemical free food options. When they learned about the SENCE Agric Advocacy Program, they eagerly joined, hoping to improve their dietary habits and make a positive impact on their overall well-being.

Implementation:

With the guidance of SENCE Agric staff, the Johnson family started by assessing their available space and identifying potential gardening spots. Despite having a small backyard and a balcony, they were determined to make the most of what they had. They attended training organized by the program, where they learned innovative techniques for utilizing unconventional containers, repurposed materials, and vertical gardening systems.

Utilizing household materials:

To create a vibrant and productive home garden, the Johnson family employed various household materials. They repurposed old buckets and transformed them into container gardens for growing herbs and vegetables. The family creatively used discarded tyres as raised beds, taking advantage of their sturdy structure and the ease of arranging them into compact garden areas. Additionally, they utilized vertical gardening techniques, using stacked planters filled with soil and hanging them from their balcony railing.

Choosing appropriate crops:

The SENCE Agric staff educated the Johnson family on selecting suitable crops based on available space, sunlight exposure, and their dietary preferences. Considering their limited space, the family opted for crops that thrived in containers, such as cherry tomatoes, peppers, lettuce, and herbs. They also experimented with vertical gardening by growing climbing plants like cucumbers and peas on trellises made from repurposed materials.

Regular maintenance and care:

To ensure optimal growth and productivity, the Johnson family adhered to the maintenance practices recommended by the SENCE Agric Advocacy Program. They learned about watering schedules, soil nutrition, and pest control techniques that enabled them to grow healthy plants without relying on harmful chemical pesticides. Regular monitoring and timely interventions allowed them to address any issues that arose, fostering a vibrant and sustainable home garden.

Achievements and Recognition:

Motivated by their progress, SENCE Agric holds biannual home garden competitions. Other home gardeners showcase their innovative use of space and creative gardening techniques, for a chance to win a prize. Prizes are awarded for commitment, dedication, and impressive results within limited spaces.

Impact and Future Plans:

The Johnson family's success story serves as an inspiration to other families facing similar challenges. Through their participation in the SENCE Agric Advocacy Program, they have experienced numerous benefits, including increased access to fresh and nutritious food, reduced food expenses, and improved overall well-being.

Conclusion:

The Johnson family's journey exemplifies the transformative potential of the SENCE Agric Advocacy Program. By empowering families to grow their own food, regardless of space limitations, we promote self-sufficiency, healthy eating habits, and environmental sustainability.

If you need any assistance setting up your home garden, give us a call.