



## LETTUCE CHALLENGE & POSTER CONTEST 2015 ENTRY GUIDELINES

**Your Challenge:** Nurture a lettuce plant for six weeks as part of our new youth outreach program. We provide the plant, and you have complete creative control to monitor water levels, light, temperature, and any soil amendments.

**Entry Requirements:** **1.** All entry submissions are optional. **2.** Prepare classroom entries for a volunteer to pick them up at your school office on April 9/10. **3.** Classroom entries will be on display in the GEC gallery during our awards ceremony, Third Sunday, April 19th, 2-4 pm. **4.** Any entries will be returned to your school on April 20th, or can be composted at the GEC. **5.** Families who registered as part of our Third Sunday Nature Play workshop and have community windowsill lettuce gardens may submit photos only. **6.** Images of submissions, and contributed photos may be used in the Power of Plants comic book that will be distributed digitally, as well as available for optional printed purchase from the GEC in May. **7.** Second grade classrooms registered in the Lettuce Challenge are encouraged to submit:

**\*PLANT/SOIL:** Up to three buttercrunch lettuce plants, in original peat pots or 3" pots. Clearly labeled with school/class/name.

**\*POSTERS:** Up to three (3) posters that help illustrate the story of your plants. This is an opportunity to share with others the body of knowledge you build during the Lettuce Challenge. Catalog your growth experience with math, art, imagination, or scientific observations. Minimum size: 2" x 2", Maximum size: 12" x 18", original designs. Clearly label with school/class/name.

**\*PHOTOS:** An unlimited number of lettuce challenge photos may be sent, at any time, to [youth.director@gecgreenwich.org](mailto:youth.director@gecgreenwich.org). Questions, special updates, and all submitted photos may be shared on our blog, [www.gecnatureplay.wordpress.com](http://www.gecnatureplay.wordpress.com), please include descriptions and credit, or note any that you'd prefer to submit as anonymous contributions.

**Evaluation Criteria:** A panel of judges will award entries on four categories of achievement, to encourage all levels of participation. No matter where you're coming from, whether you're a confident gardener, or a hesitant beginner, judges are looking for a measurable growth experience. Awards include GREEN HEARTS, GREEN THUMBS, GREEN MINDS, CULTIVATING A GROWTH MINDSET, and the POWER OF PLANTS. More details on these categories, sponsors, and judges will be posted to the GEC youth blog. To receive email updates contact [youth.director@gecgreenwich.org](mailto:youth.director@gecgreenwich.org).



*The NEW Power of Plants Curriculum was developed by the GEC in an effort to support our mission to promote horticulture, conservation, and the arts. The Lettuce Challenge was created with guidance from the Stamford Lettuce Challenge and G.I.V.E, volunteers in the GEC Greenhouse, GPS PTAC Green Schools, and community sponsors. Together we are planting seeds for life-long learning, healthy living, and good stewardship. Thank you for your participation and your support.*