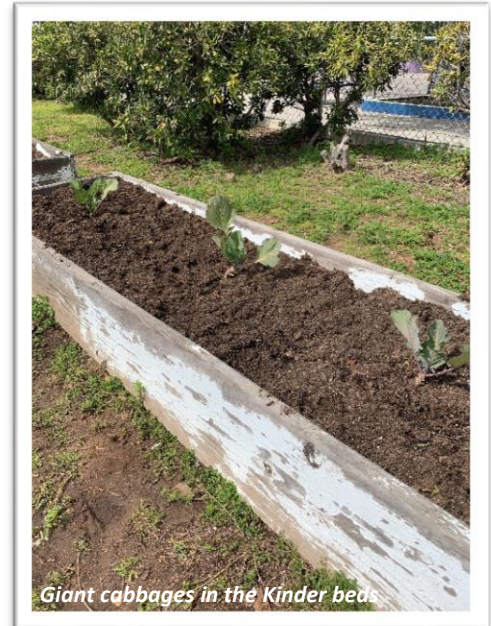


## What's Growing On

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Welcome to the garden and nutrition corner. February was a great rainy month for San Diego and our garden and orchard received a good soaking! Some topics we covered this month include seasons and propagation. Students learned about the season cycle and how it impacts our deciduous fruit trees, like apples. We also studied propagation, the act of producing a new plant from a parent plant. Some propagation methods include seeds, root cutting, slip cuttings, and runners and we learned about these different methods by growing potatoes, sweet potatoes and strawberries! Our garden also received a wonderful donation of giant cabbages from Bonnie Plants. We added some fertilizer to the garden beds and planted these beauties, let's see how big we can get them to grow! Kindergarteners also planted cabbages in the Kinder area.



In the Nutrition Science Lab we had a blast making edible dirt! Students made “dirt” parfaits and learned that soil is not just dirt but has so many components and layers. Then we got to eat our creations! See the “Recipes” section for how to make edible dirt at home. 5th grade worked with more advance science to perform soil testing. Vegetables grow best in certain nutrient-rich environments, so we tested our garden soil for pH, nitrogen, potassium and phosphorous.

March is National Nutrition Month! Check back next month to learn about rethinking your drink choices and healthy beverage alternatives.

We're always looking for help in the garden during or after school hours. To learn how you can get involved, please contact the Garden and Nutrition coordinator Kim-Ashleigh Mostert at [kmostert@sandi.net](mailto:kmostert@sandi.net)

