

Squashing the Pest Problem at Turn Back Time Farm

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Problem: Insect pests are responsible for major crop losses on TBT farm where pesticides and harmful chemicals cannot be used.

Goal: Implement a chemical free IPM method that targets squash bugs, cucumber beetles, and Japanese beetles that will result in higher yields.



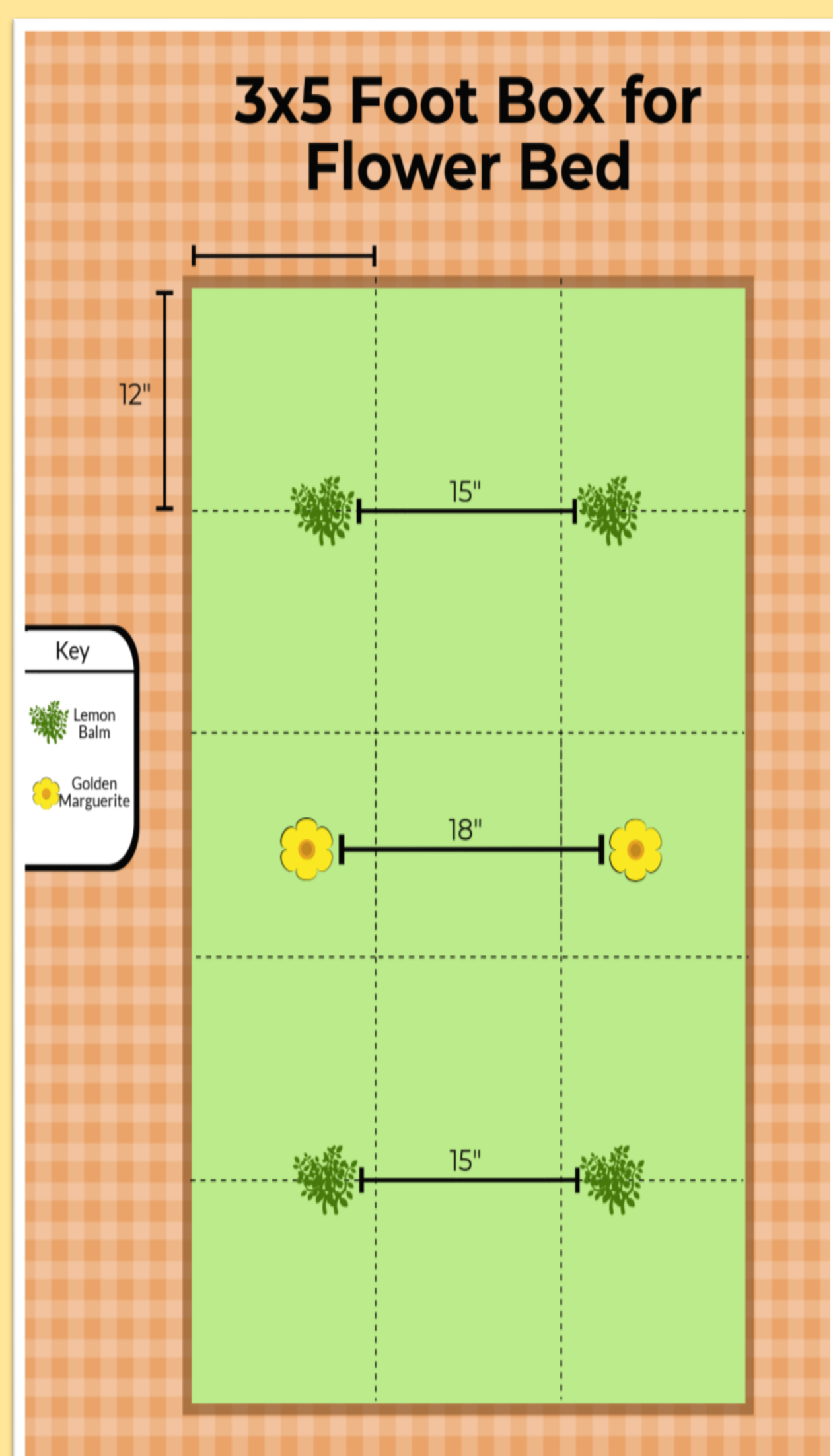
Turn Back Time Farm

Turn Back Time Farm is a farm in Paxton, Massachusetts that primarily functions as an educational system for younger children in preschool and primary school. The main philosophy of their education is incorporating everything into fun activities relating to play.



Solution

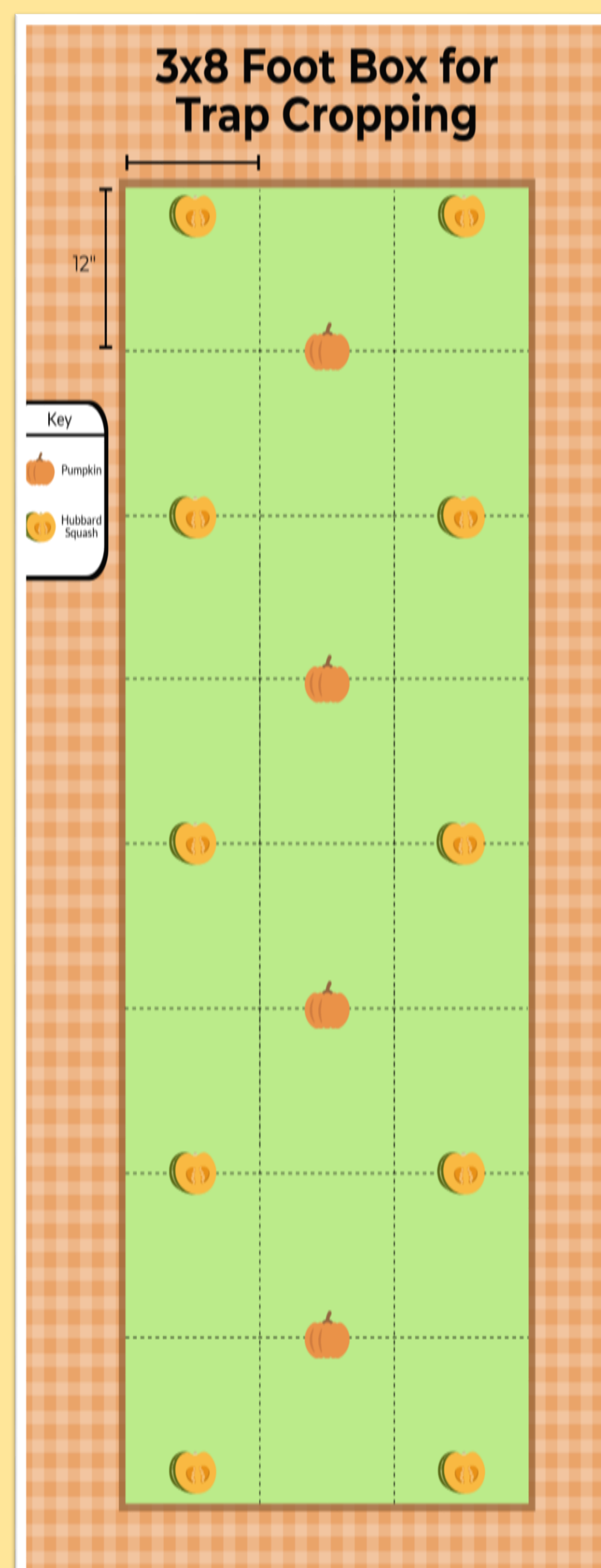
Attracting Beneficials



Golden Marguerite and Lemon Balm both attract beneficials such as tachinid flies and hoverflies.



Trap Cropping



Trap cropping is the method of using other crops like hubbard squash to surround the pumpkins to lure the pests away from the desired crop.



Hand Picking



Because the farm focuses on education through play, we created a lesson plan to tie in an educational activity with our suggested IPM practice of hand picking.



References