

PLANT A
Pizza
GARDEN!

5/6/2025

On Tuesday, May 6, 2025, Mr. O'Brien's kindergarten class at Whitman Elementary School hosted two special visitors, Leslie Canales, an intern from Rowan University, and Food Service Manager, Jennifer Mullin. Ms. Leslie's presentation focused on the question, "Where do our favorite foods come from?". To begin, students discussed the ingredients commonly found in pizza, such as tomatoes and wheat. After listening to a short story about an Italian family and their legacy, Ms. Leslie worked with small groups to plant seeds/seedlings for their classroom pizza-themed garden. Students benefited from sensory experiences with new and familiar plants. Furthermore, students engaged in conversations about food preferences by participating in a classroom art project where they each designed a pizza slice. They learned new skills such as using a hand shovel, potting plants, sowing seeds, and watering. Students will enjoy the beauty of sweet cherry tomatoes, basil, oregano, and marigold in their classroom garden. Ms. Leslie hopes students feel more connected to their food and environment. Thank you to our Elementary School Food Service Workers for their support in providing a healthy cherry tomato snack. One student loved this treat so much that they had five samples!

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Check out our youth gardeners in action!

