### What is the problem, concern or needed improvement and why is it needed?

Consider how the problem, concern or needed improvement is affecting students, families, and/or the community.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>K-2</td>
<td>We do not know where our food comes from. We surveyed our friends at lunch and the number one answer was the “grocery store” and the number 2 answer was “home”. We want to know where our food comes from and how food helps us grow and learn.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3-5</td>
<td>We recently learned what food miles are and after talking to our district’s food department realized our school food is coming from hundreds of miles away. We want to reduce our food mile footprint by proposing to our district’s food department that they source from local farmers and use food from our school’s own fruit and vegetable gardens in our cafeteria.</td>
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### What action(s) will we take?

Consider how we will persuade people to make a change in their behavior or implement new solutions.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Action(s)</th>
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| K-2   | • Interview our food services department to learn where our cafeteria food comes from.  
       • Use a map to show where our food comes from.  
       • Inform our friends about what we learned and why it’s important. |
| 3-5   | • Inform the school about what food miles are and why our team is taking action.  
       • Interview our food services department about the process used to choose a food provider over buying direct from local farmers? What would it take to change or include local farmers?  
       • Create a plan to 1) take better care of our current gardens and 2) make a plan to expand our gardens.  
       • Make a plan to keep our school informed. |
**How will we check our progress to see how we are doing?**

- K-2
  - We will use our timeline to help us stay on track and use our Eco-Action Team meetings to review our progress and see if we need to make changes to our timeline and/or plan.

- 3-5
  1. We will use our timeline to help us stay on track.
  2. We will use our Eco-Action Team meetings to review our progress and see if we need to make changes to our timeline and/or plan.
  3. We will use our school district’s experts, local farmers and master gardeners to advise us.

**What will it look like or what will happen if we solve the problem/make improvements?**

- K-2
  - At the end of this project, we will have a map that is large, displayed in the cafeteria and shows where our school food comes from. We will also survey our friends again more of them will be able to tell us where their food comes from and the grocery store or home will not be the number 1 and 2 answers.

- 3-5
  - We will have a plan forward to work with local farmers or understand why we cannot work with our local farmers.
  - Our garden will be healthy and producing again and we will have a “blueprint” for our expanded gardens and know who we need to help us create them.
  - Have permission to use our harvest in school lunches.

**What materials do we need to solve our problem/make improvements?**

- K-2
  - Turn our paper map into a large mural for the cafeteria.
  - Snacks for when our guest come to our meetings.
  - Volunteers to take notes and help us collect and analyze our data.

- 3-5
  - Soil amendments and gardening tools (some of our tools need to be replaced)
  - Snacks for when our guest come to our meetings.
  - Volunteers to help with garden refresh and ongoing maintenance.