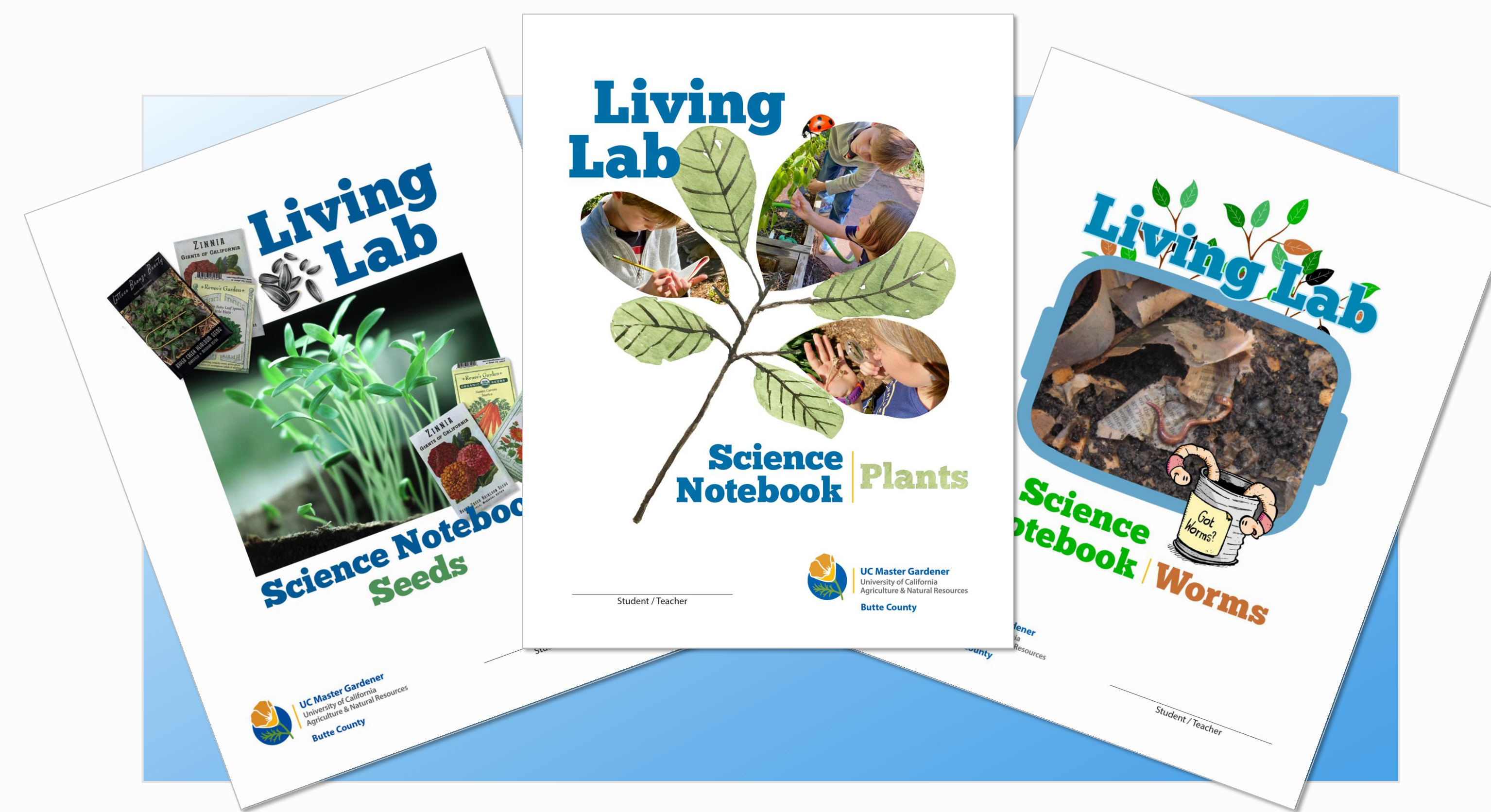


Empowering Leaders in a Living Lab School Garden

UC Master Gardeners of Butte County

From School Gardens to Living Laboratories

- Vision of creating school gardens and using them for meaningful learning experiences
- A Living Lab garden engages students in learning about the natural world
- TWIGs lesson content aligned with Next Generation Science Standards by grade level
- Living Lab garden lessons are based on the 5 E's: Engage, Explore, Explain, Elaborate, and Evaluate



Student notebooks are a key part of the Living Lab units for Seeds, Plants and Worms. Students record their predictions, observations, data, and analysis.

Teaching School Garden Leaders results in more students in the garden

- Over the last two years we have trained 120 School Garden Leaders to teach our Seeds and Worms units
- We have trained principals, teachers, parents, after-school program leaders, and CalFresh staff
- We are creating a model Living Lab garden, with garden beds set up to align with each of the lessons



A master gardener guides parents and children in transplanting starts into an herb sensory garden bed.

New Approach Leads to New Lessons

- Student engagement starts with what they already know about seeds, worms and/or plants
- Focus on exploring natural phenomena in a way that increases curiosity and wonder
- Students record their predictions, observations, and data and explain their emerging ideas in science notebooks



School garden leaders participate in the lessons that they will teach, thus experiencing the student perspective themselves. Here, participants observe how worms respond to light and dark, wet and dry conditions.