

# Seeds of Change

This garden was designed and planted as part of a city-wide project involving 11 primary schools and 5 community groups.

The plants you see here have been chosen because of their links to Bristol's maritime past: each species originates from a different part of the world, and travelled to the UK in the ballast of trading ships.

'Seeds of Change' is an ongoing exploration of ballast flora found in European Port cities, conceived by Brazilian artist Maria Thereza Alves.

The floating garden is populated with a selection of non-native ballast seed plants. We have used some of the same plants, to create our own ballast seed garden, symbolising a living history of Bristol's trade and maritime past.

You may recognise some of the plants: many species have become naturalised and exist happily alongside native British flora.

For more information on the project see:

[bristol.ac.uk/seeds-of-change](http://bristol.ac.uk/seeds-of-change)

You are warmly invited to visit:

**Botanic Garden, University of Bristol**  
[bristol.ac.uk/botanic-garden](http://bristol.ac.uk/botanic-garden)

**Floating Ballast Seed Garden, Harbourside**  
[arnolfini.org.uk](http://arnolfini.org.uk)

both of whom have extensive collections of ballast seed garden plant species and welcome individuals as well as visits from school and community groups.

## Participating primary schools & community groups

- 1 Ashley Down Primary School
- 2 Ashton Gate Primary School
- 3 Compass Point South Street School & Children's Centre
- 4 Easton C of E Primary School
- 5 Hillcrest Primary School
- 6 Fishponds Church of England Academy
- 7 Friends of Netham Park
- 8 Greenfield E-ACT Primary Academy
- 9 Sefton Park Primary School
- 10 Shirehampton Primary School
- 11 St Werburgh's Primary School
- 12 The Park Community Learning Centre
- 13 The Southville Centre
- 14 Upper Horfield Community School
- 15 Wellspring Healthy Living Centre (planters)
- 16 Windmill Hill City Farm and St Mary Redcliffe CE VC Primary School



**Marigold** (*Calendula officinalis*)  
 Origin: Mediterranean Region of Southern Europe & North Africa



**Love in a Mist** (*Nigella damascena*)  
 Origin: Southern Europe and North Africa



**Flax or Linseed** (*Linum usitatissimum*)  
 Origin: Eurasia



**Green Bristle Grass** (*Setaria viridis*)  
 Origin: Eurasia



**Dark Mullein** (*Verbascum nigrum*)  
 Origin: Asia



**Tassel Flower** (*Amaranthus caudatus*)  
 Origin: American tropics



**Oats** (*Avena sativa*)  
 Origin: Middle East

Utilising an old grain barge, a 'ballast seed garden' was created and is currently located on Bristol's floating harbour. This floating garden was commissioned by Arnolfini, and developed in partnership with the University of Bristol's Botanic Garden and Bristol City Council.



The 2013 project Seeds of Change: Growing a Living History of Bristol was led by the Centre for Public Engagement at the University of Bristol in partnership with Arnolfini and 11 school and 5 community partners across Bristol. It was funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund.



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growing a living history of Bristol