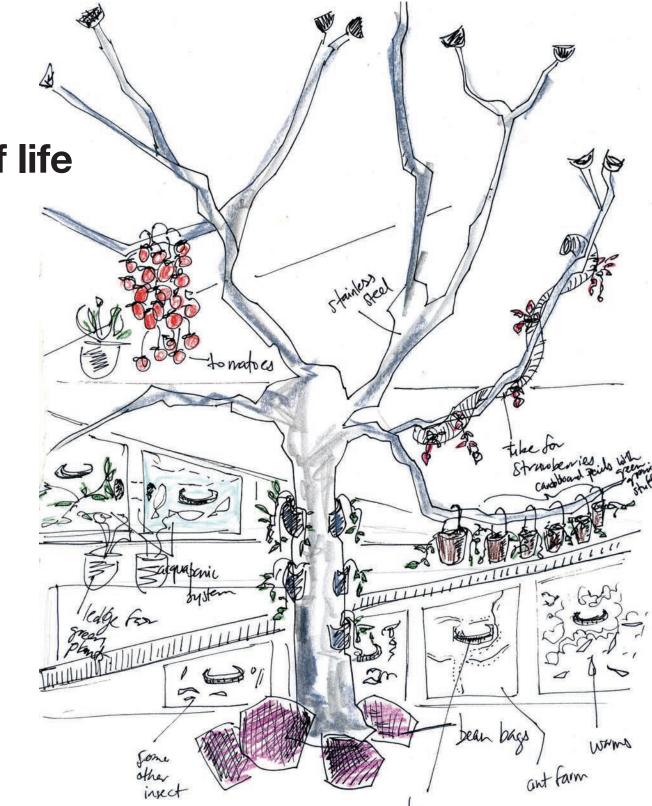
Green Tree House: Exploring cycles of life



## **Problem Statement**

- Disconnect between children and the natural world
- Lack of knowledge on where the food comes from
- Children have become sedentary

















## **Concept Statement**

Our goal is to build a greenhouse where children can interact in an holistic, and immersive educational setting that inspires a sense of wonder, while they learn and get reconnected to the natural cycles of life.



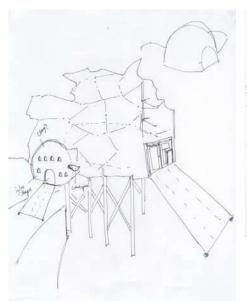


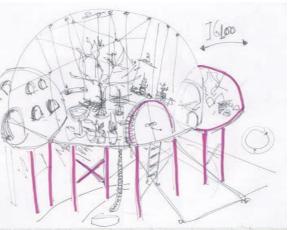


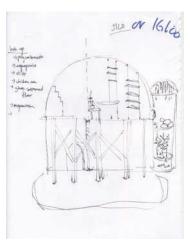


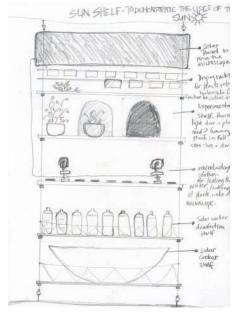
## **Preliminary concepts**

## The igloo on stilts

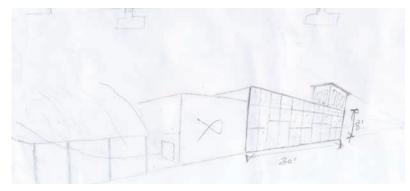




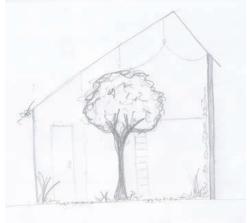


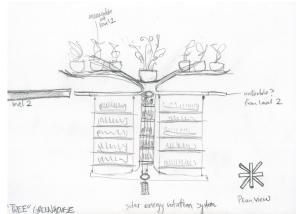


Classroom meets fort



Longhouse in the hill





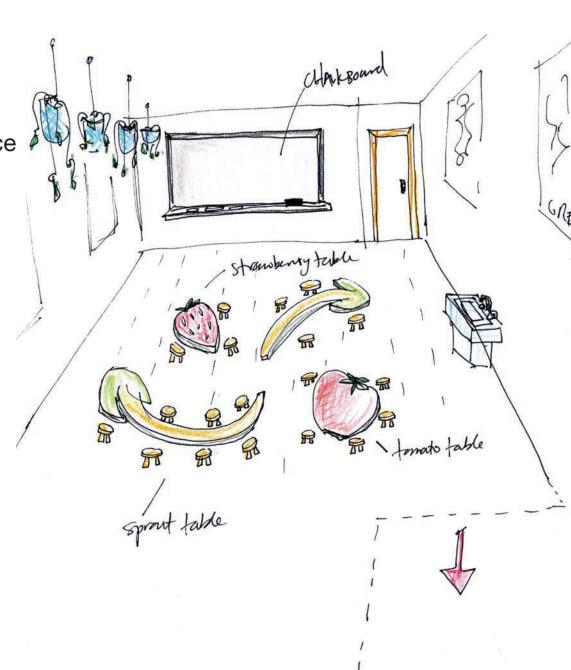
## **Design Rationale**

#### **Considerations**

- Fun
- Emphasize importance of the sun
- Double height to maximize use of space
- Tree structure inside
- Hanging gardens
- Use of recycled/reclaimed materials
- Cold storage
- Passive solar gain and green features
- Sense of equality by central of ramp system
- Educational system for all seasons

#### **Challenges**

- Accessibility
- Flow
- Safety
- Programming



## **Precedents**





PF1 Public Farm1, Queens, NY





The Science Barge, New York, NY

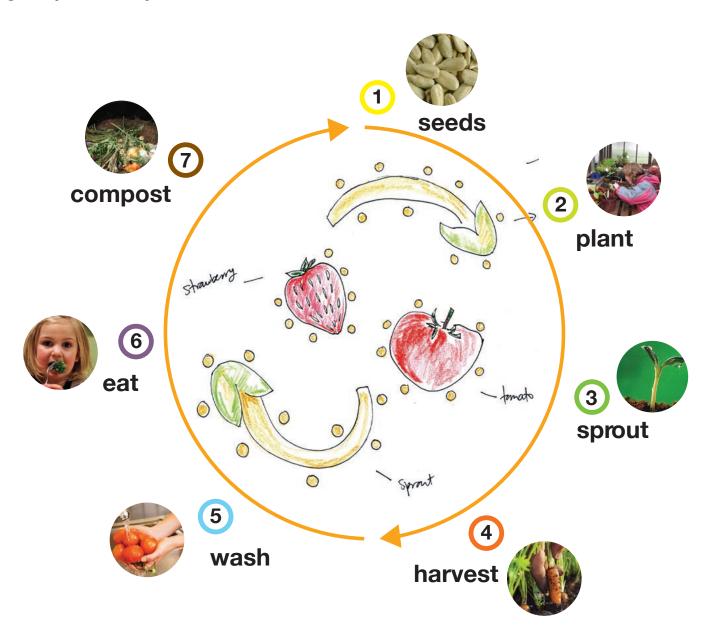




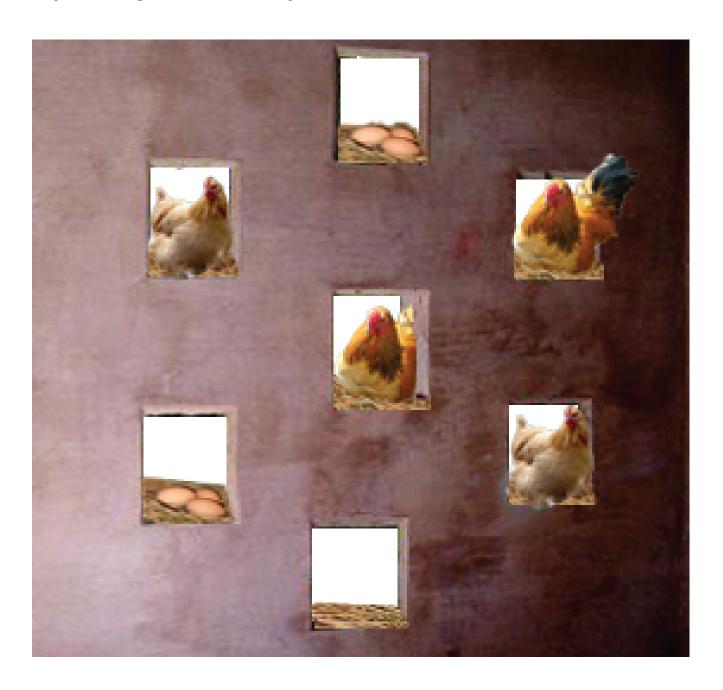
The Edible Schoolyard, Berkeley, CA

## **The Green Tree House**

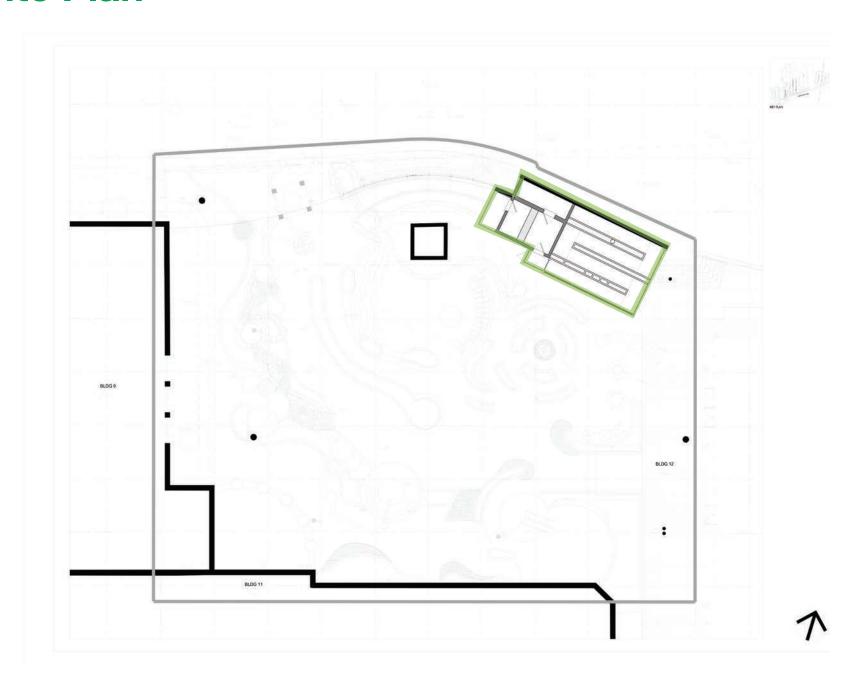
**Experiencing the plant life cycle** 



# Chicken Appreciation Room Experiencing the animal life cycle



# **Site Plan**



# From seed to tummy...

#### **Summer programming**

**9am** - Children access classroom at upper level

**9-9.30am** - Short lesson and seeds given to each student with cardboard pots

**9.30-10.30am** - walk down the ramp planting and watering

**10.30-11.00** - picking plants and vegetables

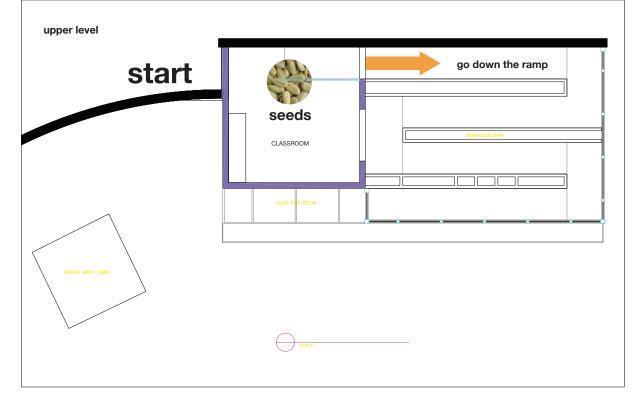
**11-11.30** - preparing food in outdoor kitchen using solar cooker

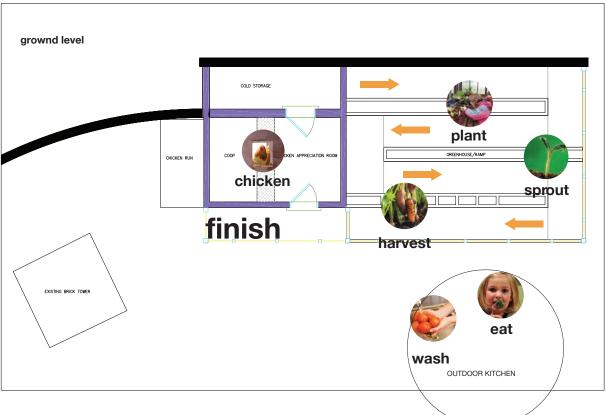
11.30-12 - lunch & munch

**12-12.30** -chicken appreciation time

**12.30-1pm** - compost demonstration

1pm - go back to school bus





### Winter programming

**9am** - Children enter through lower level/mud room

**9-9:30am** - Chicken appreciation time

9:30-10.30am - Students are given seeds with cardboard pots, they pots and plant up the ramps

**10.30-11am** - water plants

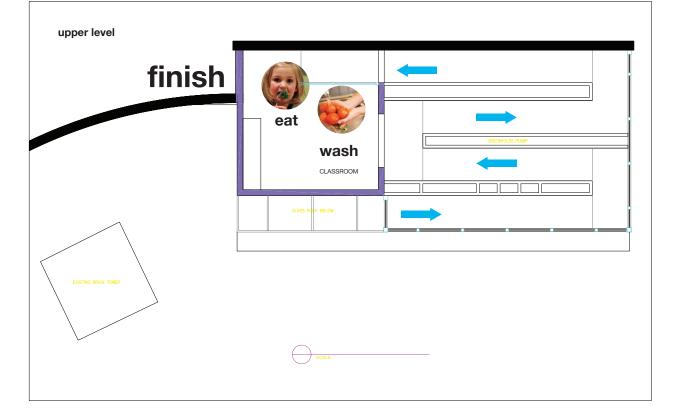
**11.00-11.30am** - picking plants

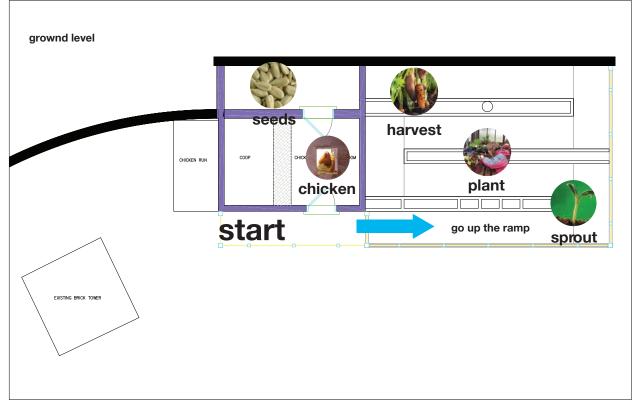
**11.30-12pm** - preparing food in upstairs classroom/kitchen

**12-12.30pm** - lunch & munch

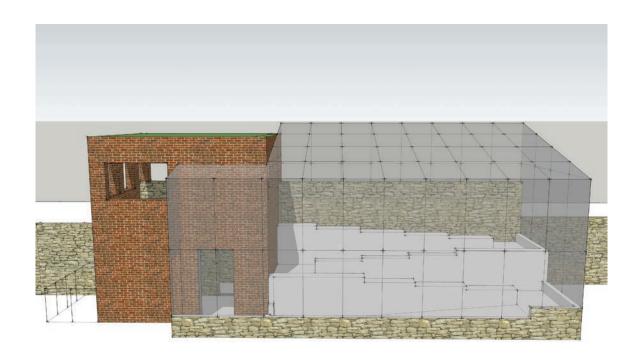
**12.30-1pm** - compost demonstration

1pm- go back to school bus

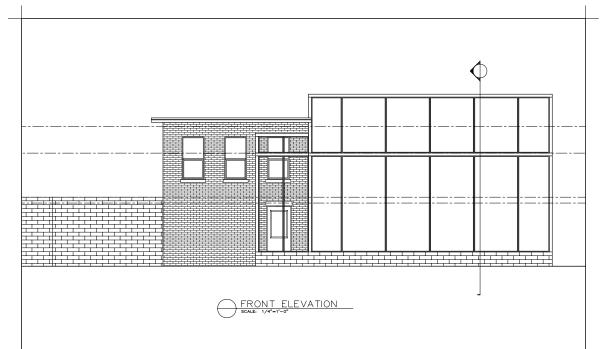




# The factory collides with nature

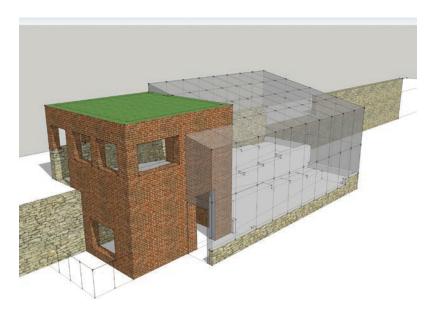


front perspective

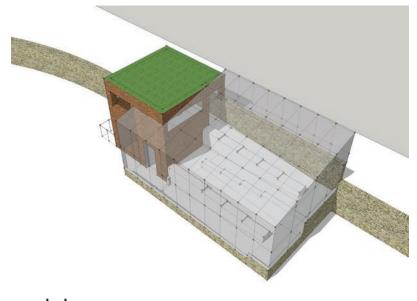


front elevation

## **Views from:**



west



aerial



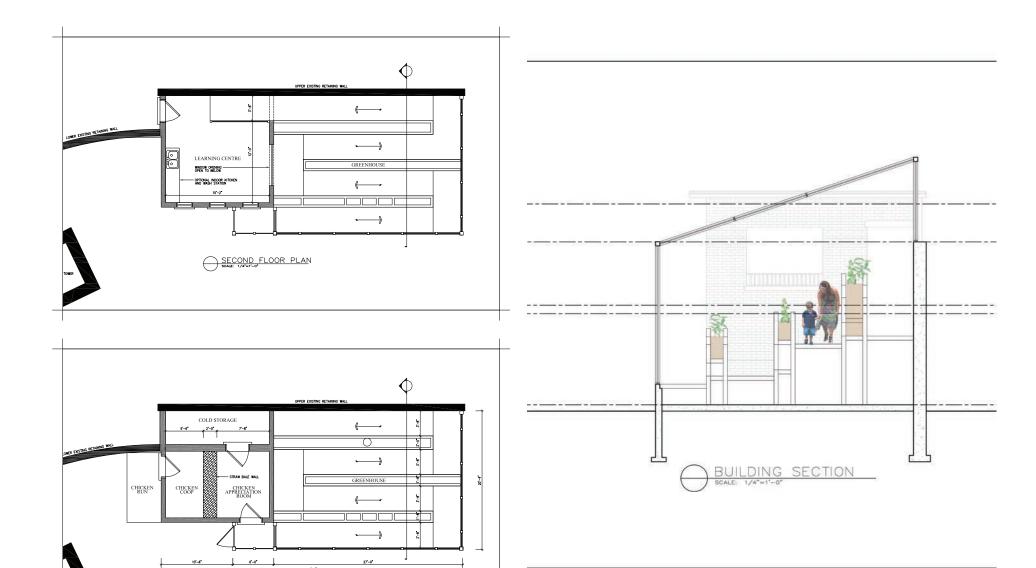
southeast



north

## **Plans and Elevation**

GROUND FLOOR PLAN



# **SWOT** analysis

Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
<ul> <li>Fully accessible and barrier free</li> <li>Good user Flow</li> <li>Use of Space</li> <li>Building on existing plan</li> <li>Safe</li> <li>Educational and Fun</li> <li>Aesthetics matching the current site</li> <li>Efficient use of energy</li> <li>Use of reclaimed materials</li> <li>Green features</li> <li>Multi-seasonal use and programs</li> <li>Cold storage</li> <li>Green roof matches the adjacent building</li> <li>Planters create a railing along each ramp</li> <li>Chicken well protected from possible predators</li> <li>Greenhouse is lifted because of ramps</li> <li>Ramps provide full visual access</li> <li>Tree provides decoration and structural support</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Extending concrete base by 7 feet, towards the east side – could affect the site layout</li> <li>Ramp takes away from floor plan</li> <li>Planters only accessible from one side – but adults could reach the other side</li> <li>Education room casts a shadow into greehouse in the evening</li> <li>Heat loss by the connection between glass wall and retaining wall</li> <li>Drainage from planters</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Window in north side promotes greenhouse</li> <li>Interaction with chickens and collecting eggs through strawbale wall</li> <li>Seeds are given to plant at home, children educating parents</li> <li>Programs that can be adapted and varied to suit different age groups</li> <li>Planters and drawers in the ramps can be used for a variety of learning tools</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Possible flooding from hill behind</li> <li>Soil erosion</li> <li>Detoriation of strawbale</li> <li>Insects and pests</li> <li>Rats and mice (compost)</li> </ul>

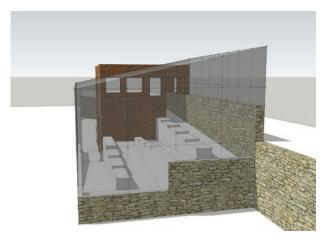
## You flow right through it...

#### **Implementation Strategy**

- Concrete pad
- Poured concrete floor is a ramp
- Poured concrete planting containers with storage cubbies in spaces below.
- Steel frame construction
- North wall sits on top of the north retaining wall
- Interior finishes to include reclaimed wood, bright colour schemes and ropepulley apparatuses.
- Glass sloping roof oriented to maximize sun exposure.
- The green roof will be built last with weight bearing walls and proper sealing.









#### **Materials**

- reclaimed bricks
- reclaimed steel beams and supports
- reused wood
- glass and cob

### **Technology**

- Green roof
- Rainwater/grey water collection system
- Solar power
- Aquaponics

